



## Prince of Wales Ranger District FY23 Objectives and Key Results

January 27, 2023

### 1. Engage tribes, communities, and partners in such a way as to enlarge and strengthen our relationships.

#### Key Results:

- a. Coordinate and complete Kids Fishing Day.
- b. Coordinate and complete the Stream Team event.
- c. Support Salmon in the Classroom.
- d. Respond to free use timber requests within 5 days of request.
- e. Continue, promote, and further develop Cultural use tree inventory.
- f. Develop and Maintain Partnerships:
  - SASSi: Teqe'heit Stewardship Program
  - SASSi: POW TCD Support
  - SASSi: Klawock Indigenous Stewards Forest Partnership
  - SASSi: Hydaburg wildlife and fisheries
  - SASSi: VOTEC support for NR Academy
  - GNA with Shaan Seet Inc
- g. Attend POW CAC meetings, respond to queries, help resolve community problems.
- h. Coordinate educational programs and presentations with Klawock School in collaboration with Sealaska to include 10+ in-person presentations by FS personnel and assisting students making of the "Island of the Future" Diorama/model.
- i. Finalize a partnership agreement with the City of Coffman Cove for the maintenance of the Seaside Day Use area. Look for other similar partnerships with OVK and other municipalities.
- j. Maximize the Special Uses fee Offset Program to complete tasks at remote cabins and trails with the help of outfitter guides.
- k. Plan and implement Alaska Youth Stewards program in collaboration with Sealaska.
- l. Create an awareness for cultural resource sensitivity and protection through public presentations, fieldtrips with local school groups, and FS employees and FS volunteers as opportunities arise.
  - Develop/Host internal Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) training for FS employees to learn and understand the rules and regulations of the NHPA Section 106 process (including Govt-to-Govt and Govt-to-Corporation consultation) as part of the project planning.



process. Provide cross-training opportunities to co-workers when available.

- Create cultural resource awareness presentations for local school groups upon request by teachers (e.g., Klawock High School Natural Resource course curriculum).
- Develop cultural resource presentations for events/communities across the island upon request (e.g., WhaleFest in Craig).
- Provide Section 106 support and technical recommendations for FS Line Officers and FS project leads for all CRD and TBRD undertakings per rules and regulations of the NHPA.
  - i. Oversee and develop language for tribal consultation project letters.
  - ii. Review draft project correspondence prior to mailing.
  - iii. Enter tribal correspondence into the Mercury Correspondence Management Sharepoint site upon request.
- m. Consult with local Tribes/Native corporation to determine whether there is interest in pursuing quarterly project status meetings, or annual 4-Tribe and 4-Corporation meetings with the FS.
  - If tribal interest exists, work with tribal administrators to schedule one year of 4-Tribe/4-Corporation meetings.
- n. Continue to fulfill stipulations in ongoing Programmatic Agreements and Memorandums of Agreement across Forest and POW District. (See below.)
  - Yatuk Creek MOA: Sarkar Heritage Data Recovery Project.
    - i. Provide monthly technical comments to contracted 2014 Sarkar artifact analysis report drafts (final deliverable due November 1, 2023).
    - ii. Facilitate monthly progress meetings with Sarkar contractor as the contract COR/technical advisor.
    - iii. Initiate site delineation at CRG-718 by June 1, 2023.
    - iv. Initiate site delineation for CRG-719 by August 1, 2023.
  - Yatuk Creek MOA: Annual Report.
    - i. Complete annual status report to agreement Signatories by November 27, 2022.
  - Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange PA: Wolf Creek Boatworks Publication.
    - i. Provide monthly technical comments to COR on draft publication, or upon requested timeframe. Final deliverable due June 30, 2023.



- Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange PA: History Kiosk.
  - ii. Complete draft kiosk content consultation with PA signatories and FS Public Interpretive group by April 1, 2023.
  - iii. Develop and install kiosk by April 23, 2023.
- Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange PA: AkAA Symposium.
  - i. Collect final article drafts from the 2022 symposium presenters by September 30, 2023, for submission to the Alaska Journal of Anthropology for review.
- Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange PA: Historic Properties Management Plan.
  - i. Complete technical review of Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP) document and consult with Signatories by April 23, 2023.
- Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange PA: Annual Report.
  - i. Complete annual status report to agreement Signatories by February 28, 2023.
- Ross-Adams Mine (Bokan) MOA: Annual Report.
  - i. Complete annual status report to agreement Signatories by April 5, 2023.
- o. Complete 5 Heritage Program standards (NHPA, Section 110 tasks) for a more balanced Heritage Program by September 30, 2023 (see tasks below).
  - Initiate NAGPRA repatriation process for five collections on POW.
    - i. Draft Notice for an Intent to Repatriate (NIR) and/or Notice of Inventory Completion (NIC) for Line Officer approval.
  - Monitor Priority Heritage Assets (PHAs) and sensitive cultural resources to standard. Monitor 6 PHAs and >10 cultural resources across both districts (PHAs on POW Districts: Baker Island, Heceta Island, NW POW, and Kosciusko Island).
  - Conduct post-implementation Heritage monitoring at 25% of Outfitter-Guide sites approved for use in 2022 that fall within high probability areas for cultural resources.
  - Refine the Predictive Model for POW Island and vicinity (Section 110 inventory).
  - Enter and close Fiscal Year 2023 project information in Heritage NRM for upward reporting with the Region.
- p. Develop partnerships and engage communities in botany and invasive plant management.
  - Collaborate with the Supervisor's Office to identify potential partners in order to accomplish invasive plant management work.



- Conduct invasive plant inventory and treatment training with Tribal and community members on Prince of Wales.
- Work with Shan Seet under a Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) agreement to collaboratively conduct invasive plant species inventory and management, and collaboratively conduct aquatics work on POW (stream and road crossing surveys, stream restoration). Provide review of stream restoration designs and invasive plant management areas, obtain Title 16 permits, and provide logistical and technical assistance for a successful implementation.
- Implement 2 community-outreach based invasive plant treatment days where community members participate in invasive plant treatment.

## **2. Support the local communities and economies by sustaining current production, subsistence, exploration, and special uses on the District, while assisting with identifying investment opportunities.**

### **Key Results:**

- a. Partnerships:
  - Complete planned Kosciusko GNA restoration projects.
  - Plan FY24 instream (heavy machinery) restoration on Trout Creek SAWC - Hand tool restoration projects (with tribal partners).
  - Determine sites for instream hand-tool restoration projects.
- b. KISFP – Attend and participate in Technical Committee meetings.
  - NFF – Modify agreement as necessary, apply Joint Chief’s funds, support Shaheen implementation.
- c. Develop a plan with staff at the FS Research Stations to collaboratively conduct aquatic research on POW.
  - Design and implement a pilot study of dissolved oxygen, salmon abundance, and flows on POW
  - Facilitate a study to develop methods to link eDNA results to Sockeye Salmon abundance in watersheds with weirs .
- d. Conduct Sockeye Salmon Escapement Monitoring with Hydaburg Community Association and ADF&G.
- e. Monitor Analyses for FY23 small sales: Complete resource reviews upon request within one month contingent on District and Forest priorities. Maintain communication regarding project updates and resource concerns to ensure timely implementation.
- f. Implement microsales and Big Thorne change analyses in a timely manner.



- Complete Big Thorne Change Analyses and Microsales reviews within established timelines, scheduling so that seasonal requirements for resources (e.g., botany surveys during the growing season) can be accomplished on time.
- Advertise microsales within 40 days of requests and process commercial firewood permit requests within 20 days of request.
- g. Complete Draft Change Analyses for FY24 small sales – OG units 66, 84, 88, 569 YG, and one additional YG unit.
- h. Advertise the following old growth small sales: Sour Snakey, Beaver Flats, Bear View, Windfall, and Plugged Muskeg.
- i. Advertise the following small young growth timber sales: Puddle Duck YG and BT 501 YG.
- j. Complete Microsale CE NEPA
- k. Strategize and develop plan for future old growth small sale program for District: Staney Integrated Resources Project.
- l. Administer active timber sale contracts: Angel Wings, Big Thorne Stewardship, Rough Luck, In Between Resale, Slimy Snakey, South Snakey, Snakey 70A, Sweet Snakey, Savory Snakey, Boy Scout YG, Eagle Creek YG, Rio Beaver YG, and Microsales 226, 238, 270, 275, and 278.

### **3. Organize and focus a restoration effort to restore our forest and support resilience including for climate, wildlife habitat, and watersheds.**

#### **Key Results:**

- a. Shaheen Creek Priority Watershed:
  - Implement essential projects as listed in the WRAP.
  - Implement at least one instream large wood project.
  - Develop designs and contracts for FY24 projects.
  - Complete coordinate with other resources to complete tree sourcing and silviculture prescriptions for remaining restoration reaches.
  - Coordinate with other resources to plan for completion of other essential projects (AOPs, road storage, thinning).
- b. Luck/Eagle Creek Priority Watershed:
  - Work to close out this watershed by determine status of essential projects and remaining needs.
- c. Complete Thorne Bay Basin Integrated Management Project:
  - Water Crossing inventory and updates.
  - Possible restoration opportunities.
  - Watershed resource review.



- d. Implement POW LLA for restoration, recreation and invasive plant projects as approved in the FEIS, ROD, and Implementation Plan:
  - Install up to 11 AOP structures
    - ii. RD 2050000 MP 10.36, 14.69, 22.23, & 19.51
    - iii. RD 3030110 MP 0.28
    - iv. RD 3030700 MP 3.88
    - v. RD 21200000 MP 9.58, RD 2050400 MP 4.49, 3000000 MP 86.646,
    - vi. RD 2100000 MP 21.37
    - vii. RD 2051000 MP 1.42
- e. Conduct monitoring as required by Forest Plan and forest-level support.
  - Participate in Best Management Practices monitoring visits.
  - Monitor and maintain the district's 10 fish-pass structures on POW island, visiting each structure at least once per year.
  - Complete Forest Plan Sensitive Species monitoring for Yellow Lady's Slipper (*Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*) and lesser round leaf orchid (*Platanthera orbiculata*).
  - Completed Big Thorne EIS required sensitive plant monitoring
  - Continue wildlife and sensitive plant surveys for project specific work including POWLLA implementation, Big Thorne EIS, Thorne Bay Basin Integrated Resource Management Project EA, and other projects as they are developed
  - Complete 4 sensitive plant surveys in an under-sampled ecological type
- f. Complete Upland and Riparian restoration work in the Shaheen priority watershed with TNC. (Identify units, layout, contract, inspect.)
- g. Collect data, in support of ADF&G information needs and research efforts regarding POW wildlife species and habitat.
  - Conduct Wolf hairboard surveys.
  - Mule Deer Foundation project development.
- h. Maintain to standards Annual Financial Plan for TNC WHIP Agreement (conduct quarterly audit).
- i. Complete Deer Summit Agreement with TNC to include G&A documentation and Steering Committee participation.
- j. Prince of Wales Landscape Level Analysis: Implement POW LLA for restoration, recreation and invasive plant projects as approved in the FEIS, ROD, and Final Out-year Plan for Fall FY22 and Spring FY23.
- k. Implementation Plan: Conduct Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 implementation workshops and conduct 30-day comment periods in accordance with POW LLA ROD and Tribal Consultation mandates.
- l. State Road Access Project NEPA Focused EA: Prepare Focused EA plan to allow state access to state timber sale near Thorne Bay.



- m. Thorne Bay Basin IRMP: Complete an Environmental Assessment to meet deadlines. Track milestone completion through Teams calendar and milestone tracker.
- n. Implement POW LLA for stream restoration, AOPs, recreation and invasive plant projects as approved in the FEIS, ROD, and Implementation Plan.
  - Implement approved restoration, recreation and invasive plant projects in a timely manner, to the extent feasible.
  - Conduct Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 implementation workshops and conduct 30-day comment periods in accordance with POW LLA ROD and Tribal Consultation mandates.
  - Identify future projects through tribal consultation and public comment and district-informed planning. Incorporate approved projects into future Out-year Plans and update Draft and Final Out-year Plan to the project website.
- o. Update and implement the invasive plant treatment program coordination with other policies, programs, and projects.
  - Update the Craig and Thorne Bay Ranger Districts Invasive Plant Management Plan and Treatment Plan to align with SASS projects, POWLLA, and other existing/upcoming projects.
  - With assistance from the Supervisor's Office and State and Private Forestry's Invasive Species Coordinator, hold an invasive plant treatment practical training.
  - Complete sensitive and rare plant and invasive plant reviews for POWLLA proposed projects.
  - Complete Botany BE, Rare Plant Resource Report, and Invasive Plant Risk Assessment for Thorne Bay Basin Integrated Resource Management Project EA.
  - Identify opportunities for terrestrial plant restoration in alignment with the Shaheen Stream Restoration, and other upcoming opportunities.
  - Identify staff across resources areas that can aid with the treatment and inventory of invasive plant species.
  - Implement invasive plant treatments that aligns with POWLLA project Shaheen Stream Restoration.
  - Implement invasive plant treatment that aligns with Shaan Seet GNA Agreement.
  - Implement invasive plant treatment that align with El Capitan, One Duck Trail and Shelter Project.



#### **4. Maintain District facilities in a manner that demonstrates pride in Forest Service heritage, and professionalism of Forest employees.**

##### **Key Results:**

- a. Develop and install interpretive signs at fish pass viewing areas such as Big Lake Fish Pass and Dog Salmon Fish Pass .
- b. Repair or replace key signage such as the Ranger Station signs.
- c. Inventory and organize office space: filing cabinets, storage areas, and abandoned/unused workspaces. Digitize and properly file official records. Dispose of unneeded and outdated materials.
- d. Clean out warehouses, program containers and sheds in Craig/Thorne Bay: remove and properly dispose of inoperable, unauthorized, unneeded equipment, tools, tanks, supplies, machines, and furniture.
- e. Complete Ball's Lake non-skid installation.
- f. Maintain, improve, or bring to standard high use trails: Sunnahae, One Duck, and Balls Lake.
- g. Survey and create condition survey report for past due trails: Work with other districts to create a standard for this survey and organize training for this process.
- h. Document and plan for future trails maintenance: Create Quick Capture map to accurately map, document, and plan for general trails maintenance and construction. Create a project plan for future trails work. Document and record all trails accomplishments in NRM. Manage all deferred maintenance trail data for following season.
- i. Maintain, clean, and disinfect campgrounds with two visits per week and day use sites one visit per week. Late spring, summer, and early fall work: Harris River, Eagle Nest, and Gravelly – 2x per week.
- j. Maintain, clean, and disinfect campgrounds with two visits per week and day use sites one visit per week. Late Spring, Summer, and early fall work: Harris River, Eagle Nest, and Gravelly – 2x per week.
- k. Maintain, clean, and disinfect campgrounds with two visits per week and day use sites one visit per week. Late Spring, Summer, and early fall work: Trocadero Trail and Picnic site and Rio Roberts Trail and Fish-pass. One Duck and Sunnahae - do as needed.
- l. Maintain, inspect, and prepare recreation condition assessments for the top eight recreation cabins – Summer Work: Off road system: Karta River, Karta Lake, Keegan Cove, and Amagura. Summer Work: On road system: 12 mile, Polk, Staney Creek, and Sweet Water.
- m. Complete 5 canoe launches and improve .5 miles of board walk for Sarkar Canoe route. Build woodshed for Sarkar Cabin.
- n. Respond to GAOA project planning work requirements for El Cap Rec Area, Harris River, One Duck Trail and shelter, and Sunnahae Mountain Trail.





- o. Document and plan for future cabin maintenance: Create survey 123 for cabin maintenance to establish a better system for cabins work inventory. Prepare work plans for cabins to fall in compliance with Section 106.
- p. Clean out warehouses, program containers, and cache in Thorne Bay.
  - Clean out Heritage TBRD Conex boxes of sterile materials and consolidate Heritage screening station to the TBRD warehouse.
    - i. Selectively process and remove sterile soil samples from Heritage Conex boxes and catalog artifacts by site for eventual curation at designated facilities.
    - ii. Multi-year project; start in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter with an ACES employee. Start with 2009 Predicative Model samples.
    - iii. Move screening station from Risa's duplex to the warehouse; need to set up an external water spigot at Soil Lab for this.
    - iv. Transfer all Heritage hardcopy files to the electronic records system by September 30, 2023.
  - Clean out warehouse, other containers and cache.
- q. Purchase an herbicide locker large enough to support a growing program, in order to safely store herbicide.