



TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST VISITOR GUIDE



TABLE OF CONTENTS

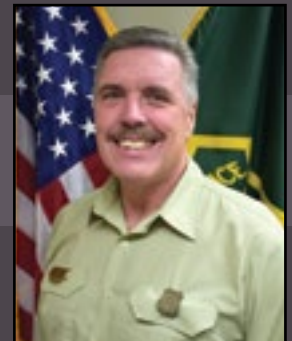
GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR VISIT.....	3
TONGASS FISHERIES	4
SALMON FACTS	5
CABINS & CAMPGROUNDS	6
KIDS, FISHING AND A CHILDREN'S FOREST	7
FOREST MAP	8-9
TONGASS FACTS	9
BEAR VIEWING.....	10
BEAR ENCOUNTERS	11
RAVEN'S ROOST CABIN	12
SUSTAINABLE RECREATION.....	13-14
LEARN MORE	15
CONTACT US.....	BACK COVER

Welcome to the Tongass National Forest!

At nearly 17 million acres, this is the largest National Forest in the United States, and the largest contiguous temperate rainforest in the world. The Tongass National Forest is a public treasure. It is a land of beauty, mystery, and untold natural riches. Since time immemorial, this forest has nourished and sustained rich and unique human cultures.

It continues to sustain Alaskan communities and culture today by creating jobs and bringing revenue through tourism, recreation, watersheds, fisheries and timber. All of this while protecting and maintaining some of the most diverse and beautiful ecosystems in the country.

The Tongass has something for everyone. Explore, renew, and refresh among the islands and along the coastline here in the Tongass, and take home exciting memories of adventures in Alaska. We hope you enjoy your time in the Last Frontier and will choose to return often.



M. Earl Stewart
FOREST SUPERVISOR,
TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST



Getting the Most out of Your Visit

KETCHIKAN, REVILLAGIGEDO ISLAND

Orient yourself at the Southeast Alaska Discovery Center: attend programs, tour the exhibits, learn the story of civil rights pioneer Elizabeth Peratrovich and watch award-winning movies in the Peratrovich Theater. Hike trails that range in difficulty from a peaceful lakeside walk to a strenuous mountain climb that rewards you with spectacular views. Explore Misty Fjords National Monument Wilderness via watercraft or air.

CRAIG AND THORNE BAY, PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND

Explore the island via Interisland Ferry. Day use areas and hiking trails abound; check at the Hollis ferry terminal for recreation information. Make a reservation at the Thorne Bay District Office for a guided tour of El Capitan Cave from late May through early September.

SITKA, BARANOF ISLAND

Enjoy camping in Starrigavan Creek Cabin, picnicking and a self-guided nature walk along Starrigavan Bay, and fish viewing in season within the Starrigavan Recreation Area, located 1/4 mile from the ferry terminal. Attend Sitka Summer Music Festival in June or Alaska Day activities in October. Hike numerous miles of trails from the Sitka road system.

WRANGELL, WRANGELL ISLAND

Retrace John Muir's footsteps in Wrangell, located at the mouth of the wild Stikine River. Bring your camera and capture memories at the Anan Wildlife Observatory, a short plane or boat ride away. The Stikine River Bird Festival is held in April and Bearfest is held in July each year.

PETERSBURG, MITKOF ISLAND

The Petersburg Ranger District maintains several scenic recreation sites, including an accessible picnic/day-use area and Swan Observatory. The Visitor Information Center in downtown Petersburg offers maps and advice on recreational opportunities. The Tongass Rainforest Festival is held the second week in September.

HOONAH, CHICHAGOF ISLAND

Take an opportunity to experience authentic Alaska in this quiet community surrounded by ocean, forest and mountains. Stop by the Ranger District Office to find out how to plan your adventure to explore roads and trails, or for information on cabins, NatureWatch, hunting, and fishing.

JUNEAU, ON THE MAINLAND

Just a short drive from downtown Juneau you'll find the magnificent Mendenhall Glacier. The Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center has interpretive programs and exhibits, a glacier observatory, a series of interconnected trails, and an interpretive bookstore. Juneau also features attractive campsites and bear viewing opportunities.

ANGOON, ADMIRALTY ISLAND

Steeped in Alaska Native Tlingit tradition, this community serves as the gateway to Admiralty Island National Monument and Kootznoowoo Wilderness Area. From here your wilderness adventure begins by canoeing and portaging the Cross Admiralty Canoe Route or view brown bears at Pack Creek Bear Viewing Site. Contact the monument office in Juneau for more information.

YAKUTAT, ON THE MAINLAND

Explore historic beaches, surf, or fish the Situk River, a world class salmon and steelhead stream, all within driving distance from town. The annual Yakutat Tern Festival, in early June, offers family friendly activities in celebration of local Aleutian and Arctic tern (seabird) colonies.



Tongass Fisheries: Recreation and Restoration



Fishing the Tongass is a one-of-a-kind experience for visitors and residents alike. It is a recreational opportunity that deserves notice. The Forest boasts over 11,000 miles of coastline and hundreds of lakes and streams, as well as massive trans-boundary river systems including the Stikine, Taku, and Alsek. These waterways and wetlands also offer opportunities to explore the temperate rainforest through: participating in guided trips and camps, working on restoring fish habitat, and fishing with kids.

Thirty-two towns and villages in southeast Alaska produce the largest salmon harvest in the state, approximately 73 million fish, with approximately 64 million coming from Tongass watersheds. The harvest bolsters one of the region's largest economic contributors, commercial fishing, supporting the families and small businesses of southeast Alaska.

Restoration of streams and within watersheds consists of reducing the erosion from roads and landslides, eliminating fish barriers, promoting

natural in-stream processes, and returning large woody debris to streams to increase aquatic habitat. Improving bank stability and reducing diversion of the stream waters to improve the connectivity of streams of different sizes for fisheries is also a major restoration goal.

Restoration efforts have been successful across the Tongass. Of the 900 watersheds on the Forest, 93% are near natural condition thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Tongass and community partners. The fantastic health of Forest watersheds today has allowed Forest staff to take part in collaborative projects on neighboring, non-federal lands as well.

As part of the Hoonah Native Forest Partnership, Tongass staff taught a hands-on workshop on Huna Totem Corporation lands to restore Spasski Creek, using hand tools to have less impact on the environment. The effort will increase salmon returns in the area, demonstrating the link between the forest and the future of fisheries.





Tongass National Forest

SALMON FACTSHEET

The Tongass National Forest supports sustainable fisheries, Indigenous cultures and traditional practices, and an intact ecosystem that produces more wild salmon than all other national forests combined.

ECONOMICS

- In 2007, commercial, sport, and subsistence salmon fishing, combined with hatchery operations, in Southeast Alaska was valued at **\$986 million.**

75% of Southeast Alaska commercial salmon catch is produced by Tongass rivers, lakes, and streams, translating to 40 million salmon with a dockside value of over \$68 million annually (2020).

- The five species of Pacific Salmon accounted for nearly 60% of Southeast Alaska's total seafood dockside value in 2017-2018, including hatchery support.
- On average, 22% of Alaska's annual commercial salmon catch is produced by the Tongass National Forest, or "forest fish" (2007-2016).
- As the most lucrative "forest fish," wild pink salmon represent 91% of the total commercial harvest from the Tongass and averaged \$42 million in dockside value from 2007-2016. Coho salmon are the next most commercially valuable species, averaging nearly \$15 million and chums at almost \$9 million.
- In 2007, commercial salmon fishing supported roughly 4,682 jobs or **1 in 10 jobs in Southeast Alaska.**
- The Tongass National Forest supports Southeast Alaska's status as the state's leading region for commercial salmon production by volume, with commercial fishermen typically harvesting over 53 million salmon each year.

MANAGEMENT & RISK FACTORS

- About 6% of the streamside area on Tongass salmon streams has been affected by timber harvest and/or road building.
- 182 problematic road-stream crossings block 64 stream miles of anadromous fish habitat on the Tongass.
- Approximately **93% of 900+ watersheds** are in near-natural condition, per a 2015 Tongass-wide watershed condition assessment, with the remaining 68 in need of aquatic habitat restoration.
- 64 fish habitat enhancements (fishways, falls improvements) across 42 systems improve fish access to 574 stream miles (+4%) and 5,531 acres of lakes (+3%), opening fish habitat to boost salmon production on the Tongass.
- While Southeast Alaska wild salmon populations remain relatively healthy, these populations are susceptible to climate-driven impacts. Continuing to implement effective mitigation strategies will play a large role in maintaining the resilience of salmon in the future.

The ecological health of the Tongass National Forest is tied to the productivity of salmon populations in Southeast Alaska. Responsible stewardship of fish and habitat resources by the Forest Service on the Tongass National Forest is a top priority. Continuing to minimize stressors in times of rapidly changing climates will likely play a role in maintaining the resilience of salmon and ecosystems on the Tongass.

ECOLOGICAL HEALTH

- 12,930 miles of anadromous rivers and streams and 182,483 acres of lakes and ponds that support and produce wild salmon have been recorded by Tongass fisheries biologists.

50+ animal species depend on pink, chum, coho, Chinook, and sockeye salmon spawning in freshwater.

- Salmon-derived nitrogen has been found in trees more than 500 yards away from salmon streams, particularly in areas where bears feed on salmon.
- Prince of Wales Island is the most important island ecosystem in Southeast Alaska for commercial salmon production, on the basis of identified sockeye habitat, numbers of stream miles for coho and pink salmon, and number of "Primary Salmon Producer" watersheds, as designated by Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

ALASKAN WAY OF LIFE

- Wild salmon have fed the Indigenous peoples of Southeast Alaska for more than 9000 years.
- 89% of Alaskans approve funding salmon conservation even in tough economic times.
- For the Southeast region from 2007-2016, an estimated 55,112 salmon per year were harvested for subsistence or personal use. Sockeye, Chinook, and coho salmon are more important for subsistence, sport, and personal-use fisheries.

96% of Alaskans believe salmon are essential to the Alaskan way of life.

- 90% of rural households in Southeast Alaska depend on salmon, and salmon provide 29% of the total noncommercial harvest of wild foods in rural communities.

Public Use Cabins

There are 144 reserve-able cabins spread throughout the Tongass. They each provide a cozy shelter, wooden bunks to sleep 2-15 people, and an outhouse. There are three drive-up cabins, Middle Ridge and Starrigavan. Twelve Mile Arm and Polk Camp on Prince of Wales Island are located a short walk to and from a road.

COST: Varies by location and season.

STAY LIMIT: Varies by location. Maximum 7-14 night's in summer; 10-14 nights in winter; 2 nights Juneau cabins only.

RESERVATIONS & FEES

Visit recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777 for the most up to date fees and to make cabin and campground reservations.



Campgrounds

WHERE	NAME AND LOCATION	# SITES	RESERVATIONS	REMARKS
Prince of Wales Island	Eagles Nest 15.6 miles west of Thorne Bay	11	some sites	Fully accessible
	Harris River 19.2 miles from Craig	14	some sites	Fully accessible, one group shelter
Ketchikan	Ward Lake Rec. Area Signal Creek and Last Chance campgrounds 7 miles from ferry terminal	44	All sites reservation only	CCC Group Use Area can be reserved through ranger district for day or overnight use. Signal Creek open year-round.
Wrangell	Nemo Campsite 14 miles from town	8	no	Wheelchair accessible 8 campsites at 4 areas
	Lower Salamander Rec. Site 23 miles from town	3	no	3 covered picnic shelters
Petersburg	Ohmer Creek 21 miles from town	10	no	Open year-round, weather permitting
Sitka	Sawmill Creek Campground	4	no	3 single family sites and 1 ADA group site; open year-round but with vehicle restrictions Nov 1-May 15.
Sitka	Starrigavan Rec. Area near ferry terminal; 1 cabin avail.	35	some sites	Fully accessible, open year-round; with vehicle restrictions Sept. 15-April 30
Juneau	Mendenhall Lake 7 miles from ferry 13 miles from town	69	All sites reservation only. Additional \$10 reservation fee - recreation.gov	Wheelchair accessible, tables, grills, water, toilets, showers
	Auk Village 2 miles from ferry 15 miles from town	11	All sites reservation only. Additional \$10 reservation fee - recreation.gov	No RV facilities
Yakutat	Cannon Beach	3	no	Fully accessible, open year-round, tables, grills
	9-Mile	6	no	Accessible, boat launch

Activities for Kids (*and Kids at Heart*)!

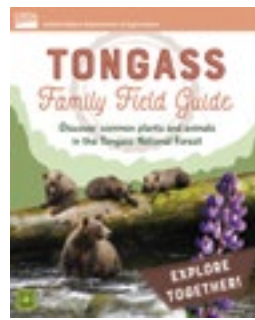
There are so many cool ways to explore the Tongass National Forest we can't even begin to list them all here! We can, however, share a few of our newest ways to get out and explore!

AGENTS OF DISCOVERY

Have you ever wanted to be a secret agent? Well, now's your chance! Download the free Agents of Discovery app (available for both Apple & Android) and find the Tongass National Forest mission sites closest to you - Mendenhall Glacier, Mission 49: Journey to Alaska's Past, Territory of the Aak'w People, and Southeast Alaska Discovery Center. In order to play, you'll have to hit the trails to find the challenges and figure out the answers.



Please note that most areas on the forest do not have Wi-Fi, so please download the app and the mission sites before heading out. Wi-Fi is not needed to play the game itself.



TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST FAMILY FIELD GUIDE

Grab your friends and family and go explore with this fun family field guide! See how many of the common plants and animals of the Tongass National Forest you can find! Who knows, you might just find something new!



BECOME A JUNIOR RANGER

Check out our 2 newest Junior Ranger booklets – the forest wide Tongass National Forest Junior Ranger and the site specific Mendenhall Glacier Junior

Ranger! Explore your surroundings and use your noggin to answer the challenges. Once complete, bring your booklet to any Tongass National Forest office to become an official Junior Ranger!

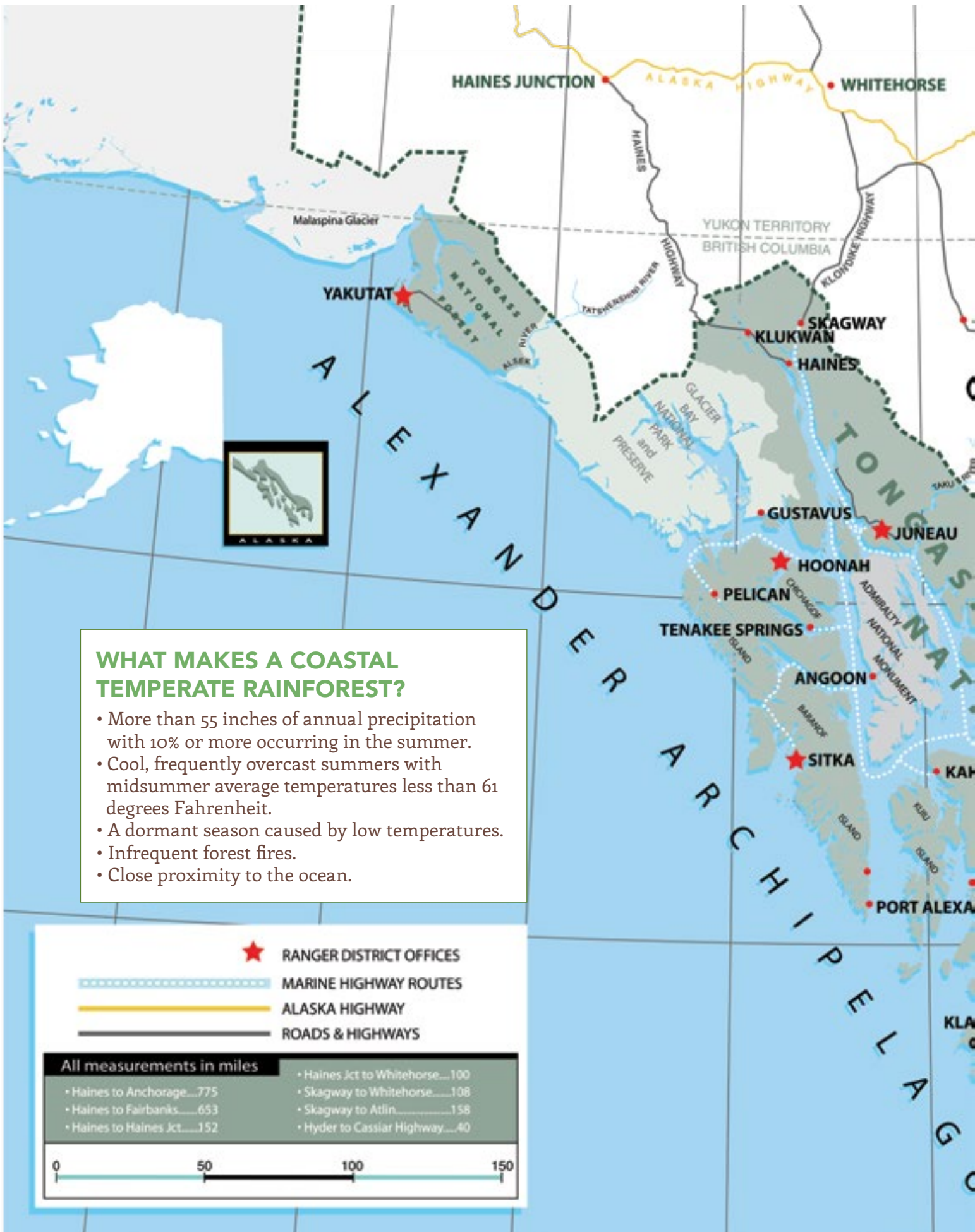
FISHING DERBIES

Fishing derbies for youth are held throughout the Tongass National Forest, and emphasize the value of watershed health and fish populations throughout Southeast Alaska. The events take place on a creek in Ketchikan, the docks in Petersburg, the shores around Yakutat and Hoonah, on lakes in Sitka, Juneau, and Wrangell, and at a camp ground near Thorne Bay. The latter honors the late Jim Beard, a fisheries biologist and educator from Prince of Wales Island.



In 2011, the Tongass was designated a Children's Forest. This designation acknowledged the contributions from all the Ranger Districts towards getting kids outdoors, being stewards of present and future forests, and getting involved with citizen science projects in their own backyards. A Children's Forest gains longevity and strength due to the abundance of community partners that believe and support youth projects.

Since 2015 the Every Kid Outdoors program has offered fourth graders and three members of their families an opportunity to enjoy public land fee areas free of charge for one year. The Tongass National Forest has been encouraging youth of that age to apply online and receive their certificate, exchange it for a plastic identification card at several fee stations like the Mendenhall Visitor Center, the Southeast Alaska Discovery Center, and District locations, and use the card to explore public lands throughout the United States. Go to everykidoutdoors.gov to get your 4th grader a pass!



WHAT MAKES A COASTAL TEMPERATE RAINFOREST?

- More than 55 inches of annual precipitation with 10% or more occurring in the summer.
- Cool, frequently overcast summers with midsummer average temperatures less than 61 degrees Fahrenheit.
- A dormant season caused by low temperatures.
- Infrequent forest fires.
- Close proximity to the ocean.



RANGER DISTRICT OFFICES



MARINE HIGHWAY ROUTES



ALASKA HIGHWAY



ROADS & HIGHWAYS

All measurements in miles

- Haines to Anchorage...775
- Haines to Fairbanks...653
- Haines to Haines Jct...152

- Haines Jct to Whitehorse...100
- Skagway to Whitehorse...108
- Skagway to Atlin...158
- Hyder to Cassiar Highway...40



TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST



Forest Facts

- Designated by Theodore Roosevelt in 1907, the Tongass National Forest is over 100 years old.
- At about 17 million acres, the Tongass is the single largest national forest in the United States and part of the largest coastal temperate rainforest in the world.
- Managed for multiple use including recreation, fisheries, timber harvest, mining, and wilderness preservation.
- Includes two national monuments, 13 campgrounds, 19 wilderness areas, 142 reserve-able cabins, and 450 miles of hiking trails.
- There are no threatened or endangered species on the Forest.
- There are more brown bears on one island (Admiralty) than the entire lower 48 combined.

ANNUAL RAINFALL/SNOWFALL (IN INCHES)

Craig	84/15	Metlakatla	86/2
Haines	58/145	Pelican	132/86
Hoonah	48/21	Petersburg	94/80
Hyder	49/112	Sitka	82/45
Juneau	56/87	Skagway	21/26
Ketchikan	141/47	Thorne Bay	66/43
Klawock	83/*	Wrangell	91/76
Little Port Walter	216/103	Yakutat	135/152

Source: xmACIS Monthly Summarized Data

*no data available

Learn more at www.fs.usda.gov/tongass

Bear Viewing

Bears live, forage, and travel everywhere in the Tongass. Here is a selection of four sites where visitors can watch and learn about bears without disturbing them. Forest Service staff are on-site throughout July and August. Watch for group size limits and other restrictions. Pets, food and camping are not allowed at these sites.

ANAN WILDLIFE OBSERVATORY

Anan is located 30 miles south of Wrangell, and accessible by boat or floatplane. Season is late-June through mid-September. Passes required during peak season July 5 to August 25, and costs \$10 plus reservation fee. Passes are obtained at <http://www.recreation.gov>. Commercial guides are available at nearby communities.

FACILITIES: Gravel trail is 1/2-mile from beach to observation deck, shelter, viewing blind, and outhouse. Anan Bay Cabin requires a reservation.

RESTRICTIONS: No camping near Anan Creek; visitors must stay on trails between June 15 and September 15 annually. The trail is rated moderate.

LOOK FOR: brown and black bears, pink salmon, eagles, otter, and seals. Saltwater fishing only.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact the Wrangell Ranger District at 907-874-2323.

FISH CREEK WILDLIFE OBSERVATION SITE

Fish Creek Wildlife Observation Site is located 75 air miles northeast of Ketchikan and three miles north of Hyder, by road, in the Salmon River Valley. The site is open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

FACILITIES: parking area, viewing deck, restroom. Camping is available in Hyder at non-FS locations.

FEES: Entry fees for July 1 - September 15: \$5 a day, \$10 for 3 days, \$20 for 7 days. Fees payable at the Fish Creek viewing site. Tickets are not available on site. Purchase tickets online at www.recreation.gov. There is no internet or cell service on site.

LOOK FOR: brown and black bears, eagles, geese, ducks, mink, beaver, songbirds, and pink and chum salmon.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: call Ketchikan Misty Fjords Ranger District at 907-225-2148 year round or call the Hyder office from May 1 through September 25 at 250-636-2367.

PACK CREEK BROWN BEAR VIEWING AREA

Pack Creek Brown Bear Viewing Area is located on Admiralty Island, 27 air miles south of Juneau, accessible by boat or floatplane. Season runs June 1 through September 10. Permit required, commercial guides available.

FACILITIES: Beach walk to observation pad, camping on nearby Windfall Island, no shelter or restroom.

FEES: Adults \$50 and youth \$25 per person during peak season

LOOK FOR: brown bears, deer, and birds.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: call the Admiralty National Monument at 907-586-8800.

MARGARET CREEK WILDLIFE OBSERVATION SITE

Forest Service hosts are on site intermittently in August and the first two weeks of September. Located on Revillagigedo Island, 26 miles north of Ketchikan. Accessible by boat or floatplane. Commercial guides available.

FACILITIES: 1/4-mile gravel trail located one mile from Margaret Bay dock takes visitors through old-growth temperate rainforest to viewing platform.

FEES: No fees or permits required.

LOOK FOR: black bears, birds, and four species of salmon.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: call Ketchikan Misty Fjords Ranger District at 907-225-2148.



Bear Outdoor Viewing Ethics

AVOID ENCOUNTERS BY BEING ALERT.

Bears are active day and night, and can be anywhere. Watch for tracks, scat, and smells.

KEEP YOUR FOOD AND GARBAGE AWAY FROM BEARS.

Use bear-resistant food containers, hang it in a tree, keep it in your pack, but never let a bear get any or it will come looking for more.

MAKE NOISE TO AVOID SURPRISING A BEAR.

Be especially careful in dense brush where visibility is low, and along rivers where bears cannot hear you over the noise of the water.

GIVE BEARS LOTS OF SPACE. Never approach a bear. Stay on observation decks and marked trails.

If the bear is unaware of you, back away quietly and quickly, putting lots of space between you and the bear. If the bear approaches you, stand your ground and keep your pack on. Talk calmly in a low voice and slowly wave your arms over your head. Continue to stand your ground unless you are on its trail or adjacent to its food source. Bears that stand up on their hind legs are not threatening you, but merely trying to identify you.

Should a bear charge you, stand your ground and keep your pack on. Bears sometimes charge, coming within ten feet of a person before stopping or veering off. Dropping a pack may encourage the bear to approach other people for food. Stand still and talk to the bear until it moves away, then slowly back off.



If a bear actually makes contact, fall to the ground and play dead. Lie flat on your stomach, or curl up in a ball with your hands behind your neck. Typically, a bear will slow its attack once it feels the threat has been eliminated. Remain motionless for as long as possible. If you move, and the bear sees or hears you, it may return and renew its attack. If the attack is prolonged, fight back vigorously.

For more information about Alaska's bears, visit the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's *Living with Bears* website.



Off the Beaten Path: Raven's Roost Cabin



A BRAND NEW CABIN

Outdoor enthusiasts may rent a new cabin on the Petersburg Ranger District. Raven's Roost Cabin, located just outside the city of Petersburg, is a welcome destination at the end of the recently reconstructed Raven Trail

A GREAT LOCATION

The cabin sits at the top of a mountain in a very scenic area, providing views of surrounding terrain and access to a variety of recreational opportunities including cross country skiing and snowshoeing, wildlife viewing and berry picking.



Platform on muskeg pond with local artist's bench



View from the front porch of Raven's Roost Cabin

Choosing Sustainable Recreation

SUSTAINABILITY IS FOR EVERYONE

The choices you make matter. The decisions you make while you plan your trip, while you explore the Tongass, and when you leave it, all make an impact on the forest, the sea, and even the planet. With more people visiting the Tongass National Forest, it is critically important to protect the forest from human impact so it can be enjoyed by future generations. Some call it sustainability. Some call it stewardship. Whatever you call it, you have an important role to play in the future of the Tongass.

IT ALL STARTS WITH A PLAN

How you get to your destination and how you move through it can be one of the most important decisions you can make in considering your impact to the forest. Exhaust fumes from boats, planes, and automobiles is one of the leading contributors of carbon emissions. While the remoteness of many villages and natural attractions in southeast Alaska makes traveling by these methods almost inevitable.



But once here, you can hike through dense forests, alpine meadows, or on a wooden boardwalk trail through muskegs. You can enjoy salt water fjords and waterways by canoe or kayak. Bike touring is a great way to make your trip more sustainable. Bicycling offers picturesque rides from sea to mountain tops, easy to strenuous, on paved roads, dirt roads, and boardwalks. For more information to help you plan your next adventure around the Tongass, check out <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recmain/tongass/recreation>.

Also consider alternative transportation. Ferries such as the Alaska Marine Highway System and the Inter Island Ferry Authority run regular routes between ports within the Tongass and allow you to transport bikes and kayaks to different locations. The cost of the energy use for the ferry trip is shared by all the users.

ONCE YOU'RE HERE

With its endless coastline and abundant wildlife, it is no wonder why visitors from all over the world flock to the Tongass. Unfortunately, the world's oceans are plagued by one of the greatest environmental





problems of our time: trash. Single-use plastics like food wrappers, plastic bags, and drink bottles are not only washing up on shores of the Tongass, but they are also threatening the health of marine wildlife that eat them, mistaking trash for food.

You have a role to play in reducing waste. You can help reduce the demand for single-use plastics by bringing a water bottle and filling it at one of our water bottle refilling stations. Choosing to dry your hands with a hand dryer rather than paper towels or simply using just one sheet can make an important contribution to reducing waste. Don't overlook microtrash such as juicebox straws, bottle caps, and bits of torn food wrappers. From birds to whales, curious wildlife often eat small plastic items which they can't digest and accumulate in their stomachs.

Everything runs downstream. A common misunderstanding is that trash on land is separate from trash in the ocean. Trash doesn't often remain in place for very long. Wind and rain move trash into waterways, which all run into the ocean. Please be clean everywhere you go.



READY TO GO

When you are preparing to leave your campsite or picnic area, try to leave the area better than you found it. Remember the mantra **“pack it in, pack it out”**. Many recreational areas in the Tongass lack trash cans. Pack all your trash out of recreation areas and dispose of it when you get back into town. You can be prepared by carrying a trash bag with you.

Keep wild animals wild. Leftover food in recreation areas can attract wildlife, which can change their behavior. Animals can become dependent on food scraps and can even become aggressive toward people.

Help stop the spread of invasive species. Nonnative animals and plants hitch hike their way to natural areas throughout southeast Alaska on boats, trailers, and outdoor gear. Clean your boots after a hike to prevent spreading plant seeds from one area to another. Thoroughly clean boats and trailers with biodegradable soap before moving to new areas. Once nonnative species make their home in a new area, they are very tricky to get rid of, so prevention is key. For more information about invasive species, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, adfg.alaska.gov.



WE'RE DOING OUR PART, TOO

The Tongass National Forest is pursuing sustainable operations to compliment these and other sustainable efforts, both in our facilities and our procedures. **Districts have “Green Teams”** who plan and implement programs that staff participate in to reduce their environmental impacts, such as recycling and powering down electronics. The agency is also assessing the carbon footprints of facilities and operations across the Forest and works to reduce our resource use.

We encourage you to come and recreate on the Tongass, whether visiting for the first time or using it daily. **Your sustainable actions benefit these publically-owned resources**, promote and enhance their longevity. With these actions we all benefit.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA DISCOVERY CENTER

At the Southeast Alaska Discovery Center, discover the unique ecology, diverse cultures and thriving communities of Southeast Alaska. Walk through a rainforest, experience a Native fish camp, view wildlife up-close through a spotting scope, or explore salmon's mighty migration from forest to ocean and back. Films are shown every half-hour in our high-definition theater, and check the schedule for daily ranger programs. Families can enjoy scavenger hunts and Junior Ranger programs. Just one block from the cruise ship dock in downtown Ketchikan.

HOURS

Summer: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.
Closed federal holidays.

Winter: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday only.

CONTACT: 50 Main Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901; 907-228-6220.



MENDENHALL GLACIER VISITOR CENTER

The Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center in Juneau is the Forest Service's first visitor center, and opened in 1962. The center offers a wide range of activities including hiking, watching spawning salmon along Steep Creek, spotting mountain goats from the center's observatory, and outstanding glacier viewing.

HOURS

Summer: 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. daily.

Winter: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Closed federal holidays in the winter.

CONTACT: 6000 Glacier Spur Road
Juneau, AK 99801, 907-789-0097.



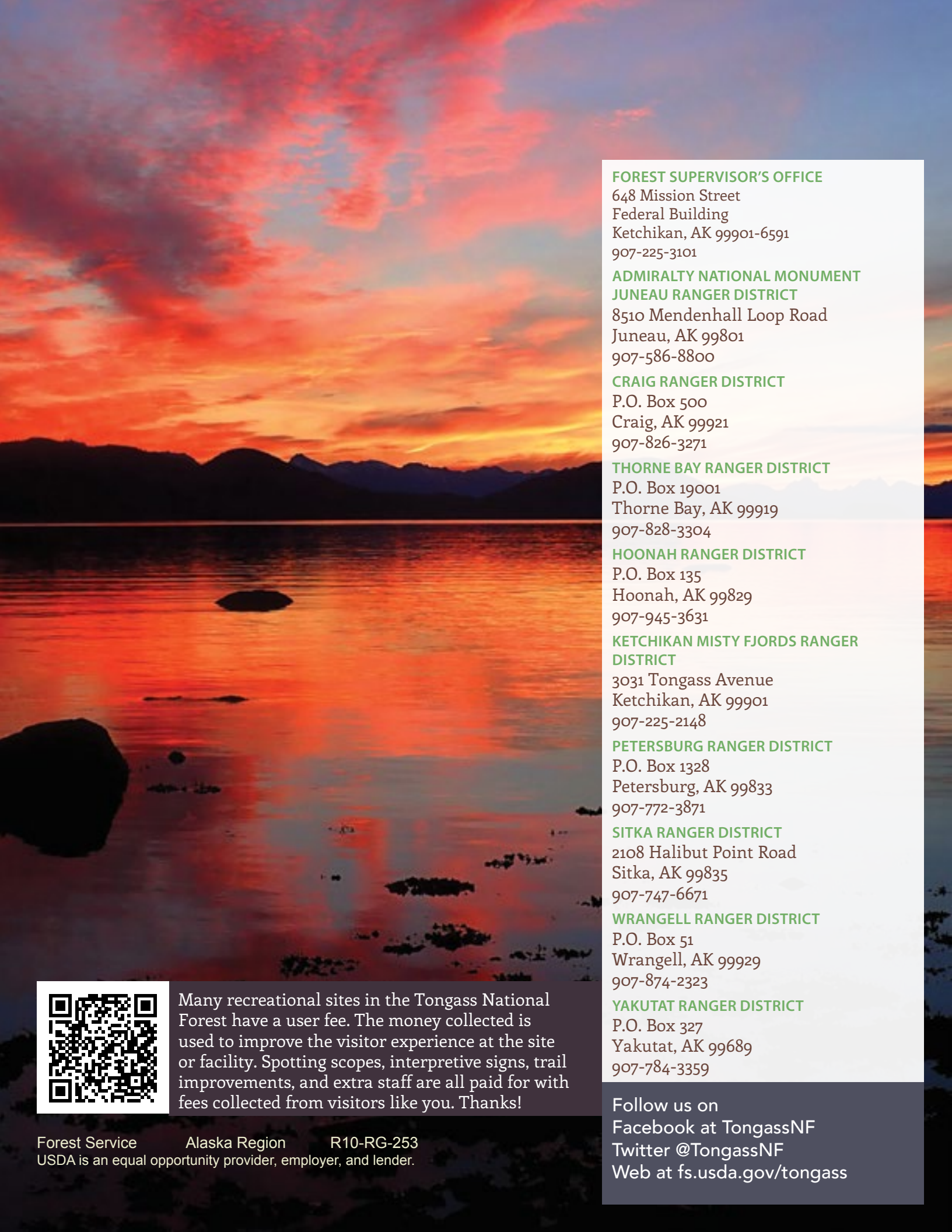
PARTNER IN OUTREACH AND EDUCATION: DISCOVERY SOUTHEAST

For over 30 years, Discovery Southeast has connected people to the Tongass National Forest through hands-on nature and science programs. In partnership with the Forest Service, they offer a variety of programming that helps to ensure children growing up in America's largest national forest will develop a meaningful relationship with nature and a sense of place in the outdoors.

In support of this effort, Discovery Southeast operates the bookstore and gift shop the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center in Juneau. The store features predominately local artists and authors, and all proceeds support education on the Tongass National Forest. Many of the clerks at the store even participated in Discovery Southeast programs as school children!

To learn more, visit www.discoverysoutheast.org





FOREST SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

648 Mission Street
Federal Building
Ketchikan, AK 99901-6591
907-225-3101

**ADMIRALTY NATIONAL MONUMENT
JUNEAU RANGER DISTRICT**

8510 Mendenhall Loop Road
Juneau, AK 99801
907-586-8800

CRAIG RANGER DISTRICT

P.O. Box 500
Craig, AK 99921
907-826-3271

THORNE BAY RANGER DISTRICT

P.O. Box 19001
Thorne Bay, AK 99919
907-828-3304

HOONAH RANGER DISTRICT

P.O. Box 135
Hoonah, AK 99829
907-945-3631

**KETCHIKAN MISTY FJORDS RANGER
DISTRICT**

3031 Tongass Avenue
Ketchikan, AK 99901
907-225-2148

PETERSBURG RANGER DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1328
Petersburg, AK 99833
907-772-3871

SITKA RANGER DISTRICT

2108 Halibut Point Road
Sitka, AK 99835
907-747-6671

WRANGELL RANGER DISTRICT

P.O. Box 51
Wrangell, AK 99929
907-874-2323

YAKUTAT RANGER DISTRICT

P.O. Box 327
Yakutat, AK 99689
907-784-3359



Many recreational sites in the Tongass National Forest have a user fee. The money collected is used to improve the visitor experience at the site or facility. Spotting scopes, interpretive signs, trail improvements, and extra staff are all paid for with fees collected from visitors like you. Thanks!