

06/04/2015 Commercial Spruce Tip scoping and 30 day comment period comments (in italics);

Comments summarized by Joseph Edmonds, Responses compiled at meeting on 06/04/2015

Comment #	Commenter #	Comment	Category	Discussed in EA?	DRAFT Response
1	AM-1	Support for the proposed project.	Special Forest Products	No	Thank you for your support
2	AM-2	Concern about the project impacting the Sealaska heritage site.	Archaeology	Yes	It was determined that the property was not National Forest System land and therefore commercial harvest would not be authorized for that location.
3	ST-1	Disagreeing with the harvesting of up to 10,000 pounds, suggests the limit be 3,000 pounds.	Special Forest Products	Yes	Permit provisions were established to mitigate the effect of spruce tip removal on all trees available to subsistence users in the community.
4	ST-2	Disagreement on harvesting of raw products for commercial use.	Special Forest Products	No	It is written in the Forest Plan that allowing harvesting of special forest products is a Forest priority.
5	ST-3	A request from the Sitka Tribe to review the data gathered.	Special Forest Products	Yes	Opportunities will be provided for jointly reviewing the monitoring results.
6	KS-1	<i>The Commission appreciates that the</i>	Support	No	Thank you for your support.

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		<i>Forest Service addressed the comments on harvesting guidelines are in the EA.</i>			
7	KS-2	<i>The commission is concerned that the harvesting cap was chosen based on the amount of spruce tips BIBCO wants to harvest.</i>	Special Forest Products	No	We chose the harvesting cap based on the monitoring we could do with the personnel we have, and on what BIBCO was interested in. Permitted gatherers will start at 2,000 lbs., with the potential for future increase up to 10,000 lbs.
8	KS-3	<i>A question on how increment increases of harvest limits will be issued to permit holders.</i>	Special Forest Products	No	Because the permits are annually renewed, it would be by request when the permit holder shows they need more spruce tips. We would need monitoring results to show impact was not significant.