



**File Code:** 1950  
**Date:** August 12, 2015

Dear National Forest User:

We are pleased to announce that the Decision Notice (DN) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been signed for the Commercial Harvest of Spruce Tips Environmental Assessment (EA). The DN and FONSI, in addition to the EA are available online at <http://goo.gl/FW536B> (case sensitive). The EA, and associated maps and appendices, are located under the "Project Documents -Analysis" heading. The Decision Notice and its maps and appendix are located under the "Project Documents -Decision" heading. Hard copies or CDs of the EA, DN and FONSI are available at the Sitka Ranger District.

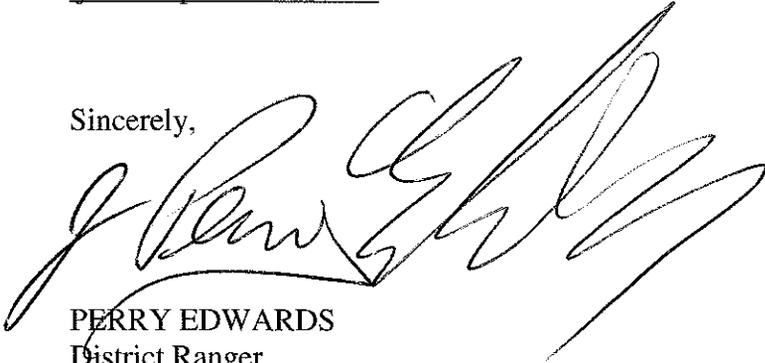
In April 2015, I notified you of the availability of the draft Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact and informed you that the Pre-decisional Administrative Review Process (Objection Process - 36 CFR 218, subparts A and B) had begun. The objection period ended on August 3, 2015 and no objections were received.

The final decision is the same as the draft decision released in June 2015. I have selected Alternative 2 as my decision. In my Selected Alternative we will: authorize the commercial harvest of 2,000 pounds of spruce tips from National Forest System lands, with the potential to incrementally increase harvest limits upon annual review, not exceeding 10,000 pounds annually across the Sitka Ranger District; allow the Sitka Ranger District to offer, at its discretion, preferred harvest areas that would not exceed 5 contiguous acres; and require an annual review of effects on subsistence and personal use.

With no objections, implementation may begin immediately as described in the Decision Notice.

Thank you for taking the time to review and provide input on this project. We appreciate your interest and will take your concerns into consideration as we move forward with future harvesting permitting. For additional information, please contact: Thomas Witherspoon, Project Team Leader, Tongass National Forest, 204 Siginaka Way, Sitka, AK 99835, 907-747-4213, [tjwitherspoon@fs.fed.us](mailto:tjwitherspoon@fs.fed.us).

Sincerely,



PERRY EDWARDS  
District Ranger

