

## 6 Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Table 6-1. Forest Plan Monitoring Questions, Evaluation Criteria and Adaptive Management Feedback Mechanism (more detailed description of column headings is found on previous pages)

Forest Plan Objectives and Monitoring Plan Questions	Sampling/ Reporting Period	Evaluation Criteria	Data Sources	Feed Back Mechanism
<b>Physical and Biological Environment</b>				
<p><b>Air Quality</b></p> <p>The current air resource condition should be maintained to protect the Forest's ecosystems from on and off Forest air emissions sources.</p> <p><b>Is air quality being maintained?</b></p>	Annual/5 year	Changes in air quality relative to state and federal ambient air quality standards. AIR2 II.A.	Air inventory and monitoring	Evaluate and change management practices; Air Standards and Guidelines
<p><b>Climate Change: Permanent snowpack</b></p> <p><b>What are the long-term changes to the permanent snowpack and how does it affect the physical and biological environment?</b></p>	5 year/5 year	Changes to permanent snowpack over the last 5, 10, and 15 years that are sources of water for sensitive watersheds and are important features for wildlife .	Remote sensing, GIS, watershed layers, wildlife habitat maps	Evaluate key changes and effects on selected resources and assess potential changes to the Forest Plan
<p><b>Biodiversity</b></p> <p>Manage young-growth to improve habitat for wildlife and for commercial timber production.</p> <p><b>Are harvested forest lands restocked within 5 years after harvest?</b></p> <p><b>Following young-growth treatments, is the change in understory vegetation providing improved habitat for key old-growth associated species?</b></p> <p><b>Are young-growth treatments improving other key habitat components for old-growth associated species?</b></p>	Annual/5 year  Annual/5 year  Annual/5 year	Restocking of all acres of harvested forest land following a regeneration harvest. TIM9 I.A.2 (f) and (g).  Assessment of understory species composition: (WILD2)	Silviculture inventory (FACTS), wildlife inventory, Tongass-wide young-growth study (TWYGS)	Evaluate and change, if needed, silvicultural prescriptions; KV Plans; Timber Standards and Guidelines and; Wildlife Standards and Guidelines