

WILDLAND FIRE & FUELS REDUCTION

Alaska's 2025 fire season began slowly, with only 38 fires recorded statewide during the first half of June—the lowest activity for that period since 1993. Conditions changed rapidly mid-June when a shift in weather patterns brought significantly higher temperatures north of the Alaska Range and multiple days of intense lightning activity. Between June 15 and 21, approximately 54,800 lightning strikes ignited 173 new fires across Interior Alaska, with Red Flag conditions driving active fire behavior and threatening communities and critical infrastructure.



By the end of the season, 467 wildfires burned approximately 1 million acres statewide. Of these, 243 fires occurred within division protection areas. Roughly 400 residents evacuated from Fairbanks, Healy, and Tok, and fires damaged infrastructure including power lines, communications systems, and transportation corridors.

The division responded with more than 350 Fire Program staff and approximately 370 Emergency Firefighters supported by engines, hand crews, aviation resources, and incident management teams. Lower 48 partners provided additional crews, aircraft, and overhead personnel through national resource-sharing agreements. Alaska firefighters also deployed to assist suppression efforts in the Pacific Northwest later in the season.

In addition to suppression activities, the division continued expanding fuels mitigation projects that help reduce wildfire risk to communities. In 2025, the division managed 16 active fuel breaks and completed eight projects including the East-West Connector, Maud Road Phase 1, Harding Lake, Eagle Trail State Recreation Site, Eagle Trail Subdivision, Moose Nugget Extension, Red Fox, and Leuthold Court fuel breaks. The division also partnered with local governments to maintain 12 fuel disposal sites statewide and continued planning more than 20 additional fuel break projects to strengthen protection in high-risk wildland-urban interface areas.

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THE MISSION OF THE DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION IS TO PROTECT THE LIVES AND PROPERTY OF ALASKANS FROM WILDFIRES AND MANAGE ALASKA'S FORESTS TO PROVIDE A SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY OF FOREST RESOURCES.



FORESTRY DATA

Ten-Year Record of Timber Volume Sold - MBF					
	Coastal Southeast	Coastal Southcentral	Northern Region	State Total	Statewide Sales
FY16	401	50	7,864	8,315	34
FY17	8196	378	2,749	11,323	38
FY18	5,269	206	2,477	7,952	22
FY19	13,673	152	2,165	15,990	31
FY20	262	250	1,809	2,321	31
FY21	39071	150	3,124	42,345	30
FY22	4,870	0	4,728	9,599	23
FY23	11,764	0	3,122	14,886	28
FY24	23,707	11	9,900	33,618	57
FY25	22,020	81	4,953	27,054	29

Timber Sale Revenue (in thousands dollars)	
FY16	212.8
FY17	688.5
FY18	477.4
FY19	464.3
FY20	91.7
FY21	265.4
FY22	1,420.0
FY23	1,182.7
FY24	1,922.6
FY25	2,763.3

Firewood Permits Issued & Cords Sold		
FY	Permits	Cords
FY21	653	2,279
FY22	564	2,872
FY23	403	1,848
FY24	382	1,768
FY25	352	1,355

- NON-STATE LAND -

	Harvest Acreage in New Notifications				New Notifications Detailed Plan of Operations				
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025
Southern SE	1,095	637	569	286	12	6	10	6	6
Northern SE	13	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mat-Su/SW	131	689	259	300	1	3	2	1	1
Kenai-Kodiak	1,339	3,166	1,649	0	6	10	4	0	0
Coastal Total	2,578	4,492	2,477	586	20	19	16	7	7
Fairbanks	15	30	29	65	1	1	1	1	1
Delta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tok	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper River	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Total	15	30	29	65	1	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	2,593	4,522	2,506	651	21	20	17	8	8

FIRE DATA

2025 Fires & Acres by Jurisdictional Agency		
Landowner	Fires	Acres
STATE	152	460268
DOD	21	8239
NPS	29	74364
BLM	45	224021
USFS	32	139968
ANCSA	41	94853
BIA	3	2161
Private	113	2279
County	18	23
USFS	9	1
City	2	6

2025 Fire Activity By Agency		
Agency	Fires	Acres
BLM-AFS	204	677,014
DNR-DFFP	240	330,199
USFS	19	7
TOTAL	463	1,007,220

Cause	2025 Fires by Cause and Protection Area							
	All Fires		DNR-DFFP		BLM-AFS		USFS	
	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres
Human	212	1,980	168	1,818	25	155	19	7
Lightning	251	1,005,240	72	328,381	179	676,859	0	0
Total	463	1,007,220	240	330,199	204	677,014	19	7

FOREST RESOURCES

The Division of Forestry & Fire Protection's Forestry Program manages Alaska's three state forests and supports jobs in the timber industry through active forest management that provides a sustained yield of timber for commercial operators. The program also maintains roads and other forest infrastructure that provide opportunities for personal-use harvesters, assists private landowners and communities through cooperative forestry programs, and monitors forest health statewide.

The division also advanced cooperative forest management with the U.S. Forest Service through ongoing Good Neighbor Authority work in Southeast Alaska. The division expanded forest inventory, which informs management decisions and supports emerging opportunities such as biomass, carbon, and local wood products.

In 2025, the division completed silviculture work including more than 500 acres of precommercial thinning to improve long-term forest productivity and wildlife habitat conditions. Long-range planning also continued across multiple regions, including updates to forest management plans in the Interior, Southeast, and Southcentral.



COMMUNITY & LANDOWNER ASSISTANCE

The Forest Stewardship, Forest Health, and Community Forestry programs provide technical and financial assistance to diverse landowners and managers across Alaska. The USDA Forest Service funds these programs, contributing over \$1 million annually to the state economy. They assist Alaska Native corporations, other private landowners, businesses, and local governments, which contribute matching funds.



FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

- Prepared 37 Forest Stewardship Plans for 426,000 acres.
- Awarded subgrants to 3 Alaska Native corporations for new stewardship plans covering 1.17 million acres.
- Distributed 25,000 spruce seedlings to private landowners
- Expanded Alaska's seed collection capacity.
- Project Learning Tree expanded forest education through educator workshops, fire ecology programming, and statewide partnerships.

FOREST HEALTH PROGRAM

- Provided assistance or information to roughly 665 individuals in 2025, more than doubling 2024 outreach.
- Mapped about 219,600 acres of forest damage across roughly 8 million acres flown during statewide aerial detection surveys.
- The top three damage agents documented in 2025 were birch leafminers, aspen leafminer, and spruce beetle.
- Spruce beetle activity continued its sharp decline statewide, with only 7,800 acres mapped in 2025 compared to about 35,100 acres in 2024.
- The Western Bark Beetle Initiative supported 4 landowner cost-share projects totaling 77 acres.

COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM

- Distributed 6,200 white spruce seedlings for public reforestation projects from Fairbanks to Homer.
- Supported implementation of statewide chokecherry quarantine and an invasive tree outreach campaign that aired more than 18,000 radio spots.
- Anchorage Bowl Tree Canopy Assessment completed.
- Funded invasive tree control, streambank restoration, phytoremediation, and community forestry capacity-building projects statewide.



ALASKA DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

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S U M M A R Y

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES