



# STATE OF ALASKA DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

## DFFP Coastal Region Forest Management Update Board of Forestry | February 10, 2026

### **Southeast Area**

The Southeast Area office continued the bridge timber program execution on seven separate timber sales. The working area of Division management being the SESF, staff also provide silviculture resource management activities to regenerating stands of commercial timber on the state forest. Resource management in this Area includes support for activities on other agency lands from Fredrick Sound to Dixon Entrance.

- The DFFP sold the 188-acre Tuxekan Island timber sale. Approximately 6,300 MBF of predominately young growth timber.
- The DFFP has issued and adopted three separate FLUPs associated with purchaser design and layout on the Odyssey timber sale this past fall and winter. The purchaser is operating in the sale area.
- Contractor Marvin Cuellar completed a precommercial thinning contract for 296 acres near Naukati.
- Issued a final Best Interest Decision for the 146 acre/ 3,100 MBF mixed age West Hollis sale. Subsequently we negotiated the sale of the old growth portion of the footprint and issued the draft Forest Land Use Plan of the purchaser's layout.
- Worked with Terre Verde Consulting to define the resources of interest and the remaining merchantable timber on State land at Coffman Cove on Prince of Wales Island. The DFFP is using this information to develop a draft best interest finding for a proposed timber sale.

### **Kenai Kodiak Area**

The Kenai staff support DFFP mission goals through collaborative efforts with other agencies on generally managed lands in the Area as well as expertise in management issues on neighboring federal and agency lands. Resource management work is focused on lands classified Forestry in the DNR Kenai Area Plan and supports the small local operators and manufacturers of timber for lumber production, log home building, firewood, and other specialty products. Wildland Fire Protection Support is another important management aspect for the Division in the Area with staff providing administrative and forest restoration leadership support roles during and following incidents. Additionally, the area staff support proactive wildland fire treatments on state and municipal lands within the Area. These management activities include.

- Participation on the DFFP planning team developing and executing public and area meetings, interviews, and panel discussions on the preliminary proposal for the creation of a Kenai State Forest on lands currently classified Forest Lands in the Kenai Area Plan.



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- Collaboration with the Kenai Borough and USFWS in ongoing fire impact remediation work on the Swan Lake Burn area and in the Cooper Landing area reviewing operational considerations for wildland fire response designations of the surrounding forest, including the USFS.
- The 2026-2030 Draft FYSTS was released for agency and public review on January 21, 2026.
- Completed timber cruise on a proposed timber sale near Seward, PBIF and draft FLUP are anticipated to begin the public review process in March.

### **Mat-Su and Southwest Area**

Staff perform resource management support roles across the large area from the densely populated Anchorage bore and central Alaska communities, similarly densely populated, to the back country of the Southwest region and north along the Parks Highway. The work requires support for community fire preparedness and expertise on fire suppression as an agency administrator for the Division in the challenging urban interface and remote portions of the Area. These important roles of support for the Wildland Fire Program are part of the important mission goals on resource management lands in the Mat- Su Area supporting the demand for wood fuel from the diverse population centers. Support roles for the Division also include forest health tracking the Spruce Bark Beetle outbreaks and ongoing forest inventory work.

- Molybdenum #2 timber sale, A&T Land Services to begin operations this month on the 45 acre fuelwood sale.
- 108 acres of Personal use timber sales have been harvested of the 150 acres sold this year. Harvest activities continue in these sales as access allows over the winter.
- The Mat-Su/Southwest area is integrating uncrewed aerial systems (UAS) into the workflow. UAS is currently being used to generate new/current ortho imagery to capture real-time stand conditions and create efficiencies in reconnaissance to assist in the planning process. Other products include digital surface and terrain models to further assist in timber sale layout and planning. The Area will be evaluating the incorporation of multispectral imagery platforms to expand valuable data collection capabilities to support resource work in the Division.
- The Area is drafting an update to the Susitna Forestry Guidelines creating a policy planning document to manage Forest Classified lands for the DNR Mat-Su planning area. The planning process included public scoping on the subject and currently staff are planning further scoping efforts and have begun drafting the policy language for the new area plan in preparation for agency review.