

State of Alaska FY2005 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Natural Resources Fire Suppression Preparedness Component Budget Summary

Contents

<i>Component: Fire Suppression Preparedness</i>	3
<i>End Results</i>	3
<i>Strategies to Achieve Results</i>	3
Component Financial Summary.....	9
Summary of Component Budget Changes.....	10
Personal Services Information.....	11

Component: Fire Suppression Preparedness

Contribution to Department's Mission

The Division contributes to the Department's mission in the preparedness component by ensuring that the Division's wildland fire suppression resources are in a state of readiness to safely and cost-effectively initial attack wildland fires. This supports the mission by protecting the citizens, improved property and the natural resources of Alaska from wildland fire.

Core Services

The Division's Wildland Fire Management Program consists of two components. This component provides for delivery of services in the wildland fire suppression preparedness program as part of a statutory responsibility under AS41.15.010. The wildland fire preparedness program provides personnel, fire training, equipment, facilities and related support activities to prepare for Alaska's wildland fire season.

End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
<p>(1) – Facilitate the Department's Mission by providing wildland fire protection on state, private and municipal land commensurate with the values at risk.</p> <p><u>Target:</u> Provide safe, cost effective wildland fire protection services to the State of Alaska. <u>Measure:</u> Loss of life, property or cultural resources as the result of a wildland fire.</p> <p><u>Target:</u> Maintain the capability of state and local firefighting forces to respond to wildland fires. <u>Measure:</u> A prepared state and local firefighting force from May 1 to September 30th each year.</p> <p><u>Target:</u> Reduce the number of wildland fire starts due to human activity. <u>Measure:</u> Percentage of human caused fires annually.</p> <p><u>Target:</u> Reduce the overall state cost of fire suppression in Alaska. <u>Measure:</u> Reduction in annual state fire suppression costs.</p>	<p>(1) Strategy to provide safe cost effective wildland fire protection: Provide appropriate management response to wildland fires in critical and full management options that occur on State of Alaska protection areas.</p> <p><u>Target:</u> Contain 90% of wildland fires within 10 acres on lands designated in "Critical" and "Full" (Urban Interface) management options in accordance with the Interagency Fire Management Plans. <u>Measure:</u> Percentage of fires contained at 10 acres or less in "Critical" and "Full" (Urban Interface).</p> <p>(2) Strategy to provide safe cost effective wildland fire protection: Protect identified critical sites in "Modified" and "Limited" management options.</p> <p><u>Target:</u> Minimize damage and/or loss of critical sites in "Modified" and "Limited" management options from wildland fire. <u>Measure:</u> Number of critical sites protected from wildland fire in "modified" and "limited" management options.</p> <p>(3) Strategy to maintain capability of firefighting forces: Provide training and fitness certification for state, local, volunteer and emergency firefighters</p> <p><u>Target:</u> Maintain qualified and certified workforce. <u>Measure:</u> Number of state, local and emergency firefighters trained and certified annually.</p> <p>(4) Strategy to reduce human-caused wildland fire starts: Aggressive prevention and educational campaign based on 'Firewise' principles.</p>

End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
	<p><u>Target:</u> Raise public awareness of fire danger and mitigation options in urban and rural Alaska. <u>Measure:</u> Number of human caused fires.</p> <p>(5) Strategy to reduce cost of wildland fire suppression: Cost effective use of firefighting resources.</p> <p><u>Target:</u> Contain costs while providing safe, effective firefighting in response to wide variation in fire activity from season to season. <u>Measure:</u> Annual cost of fire suppression along with numbers and types of fires.</p>

Major Activities to Advance Strategies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial attack and suppress fires in critical and full management options. • Provide fire response vehicles and engines for roadside suppression activities. • Provide contract helicopter, air tanker, and fixed wing aircraft services for aerial firefighting activities. • Provide appropriate fire management response to other lands as identified in the Alaska Interagency Fire Management Plan. • Develop expansion plans for dispatch and warehouse offices. • Manage, train and prepare 27 16 person Type II EFF crews for employment. • Prepare 20 person Type I EFF crew for employment. • Provide annual fireline safety refresher training; provide firefighter training in accordance w/NWCG guidelines to maintain a qualified work force. • Negotiate and manage cooperative firefighting agreements with state, federal and local governments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer Volunteer Fire Assistance federal grant program. • Actively manage debris burning through burn permit suspensions to minimize costly human-caused fire starts. • Provide public information and education on fire prevention, provide fire danger signs and burn restrictions. • Issue and track burn permits. • In cooperation with the interagency community, host regional Firewise workshops. • Coordinate with cooperating agencies to eliminate costly duplicative preparedness activities. • Evaluate fire suppression management options to ensure the appropriate level of protection is being provided to state and private lands. • Develop cost-effective alternatives to traditional fire suppression strategies through the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis process • Contract with Alaska vendors for services, supply and equipment to be provided during suppression actions statewide.

FY2005 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results							
<p>FY2005 Component Budget: \$12,599,300</p>	<p>Personnel:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Full time</td> <td style="text-align: right;">30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Part time</td> <td style="text-align: right;">179</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">209</td> </tr> </table>	Full time	30	Part time	179	Total	209
Full time	30						
Part time	179						
Total	209						

Performance Measure Detail

(1) Result: – Facilitate the Department's Mission by providing wildland fire protection on state, private and municipal land commensurate with the values at risk.

Target: Provide safe, cost effective wildland fire protection services to the State of Alaska.

Measure: Loss of life, property or cultural resources as the result of a wildland fire.

Target: Maintain the capability of state and local firefighting forces to respond to wildland fires.

Measure: A prepared state and local firefighting force from May 1 to September 30th each year.

Prepared state and local firefighting force.

Year	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	YTD Total
2003	0	0	0	0	1912
2002	0	0	0	0	1360
2001	0	0	0	0	1669
2000	0	0	0	0	1137

Target: Reduce the number of wildland fire starts due to human activity.

Measure: Percentage of human caused fires annually.

Percentage of human caused fires annually.

Year	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	YTD Total
2003	0	0	0	0	94.6%
2002	0	0	0	0	80.2%
2001	0	0	0	0	94%
2000	0	0	0	0	95%

Target: Reduce the overall state cost of fire suppression in Alaska.

Measure: Reduction in annual state fire suppression costs.

(1) Strategy: Strategy to provide safe cost effective wildland fire protection: Provide appropriate management response to wildland fires in critical and full management options that occur on State of Alaska protection areas.

Target: Contain 90% of wildland fires within 10 acres on lands designated in "Critical" and "Full" (Urban Interface) management options in accordance with the Interagency Fire Management Plans.

Measure: Percentage of fires contained at 10 acres or less in "Critical" and "Full" (Urban Interface).

Percentage Critical/Full Fires under 10 acres

Year	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	YTD Total
2003	0	0	0	0	93%
2002	0	0	0	0	90%
2001	0	0	0	0	98%
2000	0	0	0	0	97%

Analysis of results and challenges: Percentage of fires kept at 10 acres or less in Full and Critical protection reflects the success of initial attack and reflects effective cost management by preventing large fires which keeps the cost of protection lower. Factors impacting this success include early detection, length of time to respond to fire, weather and fuels conditions, and availability of resources.

(2) Strategy: Strategy to provide safe cost effective wildland fire protection: Protect identified critical sites in "Modified" and "Limited" management options.

Target: Minimize damage and/or loss of critical sites in "Modified" and "Limited" management options from wildland fire.

Measure: Number of critical sites protected from wildland fire in "modified" and "limited" management options.

Critical Sites Protected

Year	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	YTD Total
2003	0	0	0	0	N/A
2002	0	0	0	0	N/A
2001	0	0	0	0	N/A
2000	0	0	0	0	N/A

Analysis of results and challenges: Number of critical sites protected on Federal protection in "modified" and "limited" areas has not been historically tracked, but would predominantly reflect native allotments. The necessity of protecting these in "modified" and "limited" increases federally reimbursed fire costs, but does reflect success in protecting critical sites.

(3) Strategy: Strategy to maintain capability of firefighting forces: Provide training and fitness certification for state, local, volunteer and emergency firefighters

Target: Maintain qualified and certified workforce.

Measure: Number of state, local and emergency firefighters trained and certified annually.

State/Local EFF firefighters Trained/Certified

Year	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	YTD Total
2003	0	0	0	0	1912
2002	0	0	0	0	1360
2001	0	0	0	0	1669
2000	0	0	0	0	1137

Analysis of results and challenges: Efficient and cost effective initial attack relies on both the seasonal DOF firefighters and structure/volunteer local fire departments as well as Emergency Fire Fighters. Annual training and certification ensures the availability of this workforce during fire activity. This on-call force, maintained through agreements of emergency hire, saves the State millions in not having a larger state firefighter workforce as regular employees.

(4) Strategy: Strategy to reduce human-caused wildland fire starts: Aggressive prevention and educational campaign based on 'Firewise' principles.

Target: Raise public awareness of fire danger and mitigation options in urban and rural Alaska.

Measure: Number of human caused fires.

Human Caused Fires

Year	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	YTD Total
2003	0	0	0	0	390
2002	0	0	0	0	378
2001	0	0	0	0	333
2000	0	0	0	0	356

Analysis of results and challenges: The major causes of fire in Alaska are lightning and humans. Human caused fire can be prevented or mitigated to some extent by raising the public awareness of fire danger and safer fire use. The number of human caused fires provides data to compare with the total number of fires over time.

(5) Strategy: Strategy to reduce cost of wildland fire suppression: Cost effective use of firefighting resources.

Target: Contain costs while providing safe, effective firefighting in response to wide variation in fire activity from season to season.

Measure: Annual cost of fire suppression along with numbers and types of fires.

Cost of Fire Suppression

Year	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	YTD Total
2003	0	0	0	0	N/A
2002	0	0	0	0	N/A
2001	0	0	0	0	N/A
2000	0	0	0	0	N/A

Analysis of results and challenges: A change in the budget structure for FY03 makes comparison with prior years invalid. Prior years included fixed costs, fire suppression personnel, and other items as part of the Suppression budget. FY03 will reflect only actual fire suppression costs, while the Fire Suppression Preparedness will capture fixed costs.

Key Component Challenges

Alaska's population continues to move into the urban interface areas of the state increasing the potential for more human-caused wildland fires. Wildland fires in the populated areas are the most costly and difficult to suppress. An aggressive wildland fire prevention program with continued focus on the **FIREWISE** concepts is essential to reducing the human-caused wildland fire problem. Firefighters and resources available for rapid initial attack in the urban interface can be very effective in keeping new fires small. The same resources can also be effective in prevention activities, in reducing the number of fires that result from human actions.

The threat of a catastrophic wildland fire exacerbated by the buildup of bark beetle killed timber will be an issue for years to come. There are several areas with large stands of dead and down timber that have the potential to impact private land in the urban interface. Local government fire departments and structure fire departments need to be adequately trained in wildland fire suppression. Continued cooperation and coordination in rapid, aggressive initial attack will help reduce the potential for catastrophic fire events due to the buildup of hazard fuels

Climatic changes creating an earlier fire season, all-risk incidents, and increased urban interface wildland fire occurrence have decreased the amount of time available for preseason training of the Divisions firefighters. Firefighters are being pulled from training each year to fight fires, creating a cumulative problem.

The Division's Wildland Fire Management Program consists of two components. This component funds wildland fire suppression preparedness. The Fire Suppression Activity Component funds actual wildland fire suppression actions and related activities.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2005

Reduction in funding will negatively impact fire preparedness capability in Aviation support and initial attack.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2003

Fire Program budgeting was previously split in Forest Management and Development and Fire Suppression and is now in Fire Suppression Activity and Fire Suppression Preparedness.

The wildland fire suppression preparedness component protects public health and safety by providing for wildland fire preparedness and fire prevention services. The Division maintains 57 cooperative agreements with local government and

structure fire departments to augment its initial attack capabilities in the populated areas of the state. Joint training and exercises with cooperators in wildland/urban interface response are critical to ensure rapid coordinated responses. Evacuation guidelines have been developed through a cooperative effort by a number of agencies to provide for public safety. This component also supports municipal and local initiatives such as Project Impact (emergency preparedness and wildland fire), FIREWISE and the Kenai Peninsula Spruce Bark Beetle Project providing pre-planning for evacuation, fire "safe" zones, hazard fuels mitigation, defensible space and homeowner education.

This program ensures that the department and its cooperators are prepared to safely, cost-effectively and efficiently respond to wildland fires in the state's protection area, and to prevent human-caused fires by educating the public and enforcing Alaska Statutes. In FY03, DNR Division of Forestry accomplished the following:

- Provided ICS physical fitness tests to 1912 forestry, EFF, VFD, and local government firefighters,
- Issued red cards to 1912 forestry, EFF, VFD, and local government firefighters,
- Provided fireline refresher training to 1912 forestry, EFF, VFD, and local government firefighters,
- Trained 448 EFF firefighters to be utilized on village EFF crews,
- Maintained 57 cooperative agreements with local government and volunteer fire departments,
- Provided exclusive use contacts for 8 helicopters, 3 air tankers, and 1 utility fixed wing aircraft,
- Gave 94 school wildland fire prevention programs,
- Provided litigation support and technical assistance in the successful outcome of the 1996 Miller's Reach class action lawsuit,
- Participated in the successful passage of tort immunity legislation for protection of the State and its Wildland firefighters,
- Protected 134 million acres of land from wildland fire, and
- Contained 93.0% of all wildland fires in full and critical protection areas within 10 acres.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

Preparedness
AS 41.15.010-.170
11 AAC 95.410-.495

Contact Information
<p>Contact: Jeff J. Jahnke, State Forester Phone: (907) 269-8474 Fax: (907) 269-8931 E-mail: jjahnke@dnr.state.ak.us</p>

Fire Suppression Preparedness Component Financial Summary

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2003 Actuals	FY2004 Authorized	FY2005 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	6,413.2	6,309.4
72000 Travel	0.0	193.3	228.3
73000 Contractual	0.0	3,252.6	4,862.4
74000 Supplies	0.0	1,023.8	510.0
75000 Equipment	0.0	689.2	689.2
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	0.0	11,572.1	12,599.3
Funding Sources:			
1002 Federal Receipts	0.0	377.4	542.5
1004 General Fund Receipts	0.0	10,738.7	4,897.3
1007 Inter-Agency Receipts	0.0	168.0	174.6
1061 Capital Improvement Project Receipts	0.0	288.0	300.5
1140 AIDEA Dividend	0.0	0.0	6,684.4
Funding Totals	0.0	11,572.1	12,599.3

Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2003 Actuals	FY2004 Authorized	FY2005 Governor
Unrestricted Revenues				
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0
Unrestricted Total		0.0	0.0	0.0
Restricted Revenues				
Federal Receipts	51010	0.0	377.4	542.5
Interagency Receipts	51015	0.0	168.0	174.6
Capital Improvement Project Receipts	51200	0.0	288.0	300.5
AK Industrial Dev. Export Auth. Receipts	51406	0.0	0.0	6,684.4
Restricted Total		0.0	833.4	7,702.0
Total Estimated Revenues		0.0	833.4	7,702.0

**Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2004 Authorized to FY2005 Governor**

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2004 Authorized	10,738.7	377.4	456.0	11,572.1
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Changes to Retirement and Other Personal Services Rates	0.0	15.1	19.1	34.2
-Prorate Health Insurance Funding between Forestry components	43.0	0.0	0.0	43.0
-Transfer In Authority from Forest Management and Development component to collect USFS Grants	0.0	150.0	0.0	150.0
-Transfer In Fire Fixed Costs from Fire Suppression Activity component	650.0	0.0	0.0	650.0
-One-time fund source change from GF to AIDEA Dividends	-6,684.4	0.0	6,684.4	0.0
Proposed budget decreases:				
-Delete Area Forester Function and Eliminate Light Twin Aircraft for Fire Support	-100.0	0.0	0.0	-100.0
Proposed budget increases:				
-Restore Heavy Air Tanker Contract	250.0	0.0	0.0	250.0
FY2005 Governor	4,897.3	542.5	7,159.5	12,599.3

**Fire Suppression Preparedness
Personal Services Information**

Authorized Positions		Personal Services Costs		
	<u>FY2004</u> <u>Authorized</u>	<u>FY2005</u> <u>Governor</u>		
Full-time	30	30	Annual Salaries	4,614,878
Part-time	180	179	Premium Pay	0
Nonpermanent	0	0	Annual Benefits	2,087,295
			<i>Less 5.86% Vacancy Factor</i>	<i>(392,773)</i>
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
Totals	210	209	Total Personal Services	6,309,400

Position Classification Summary

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Accountant III	1	0	0	0	1
Accounting Clerk II	0	0	0	1	1
Accounting Tech I	0	1	0	1	2
Administrative Assistant	0	0	0	1	1
Administrative Clerk II	0	2	0	2	4
Administrative Clerk III	0	1	0	7	8
Aircraft Maint Inspector	0	0	0	1	1
Aircraft Pilot II	0	0	0	4	4
Aircraft Supervisor	0	0	0	1	1
Equip Operator Journey II	0	1	0	0	1
Food Service Journey	0	0	0	1	1
Food Service Lead	0	0	0	1	1
Food Service Sub Journey	0	0	0	2	2
Forest Tech II	0	9	0	23	32
Forest Tech III	0	14	0	43	57
Forest Tech IV	0	7	0	22	29
Forester I	1	4	0	3	8
Forester II	0	3	0	6	9
Forester III	1	2	0	1	4
Forester IV	1	0	0	0	1
Maint Gen Journey	1	1	0	2	4
Maint Gen Sub - Journey I	0	0	0	5	5
Maint Gen Sub - Journey II	0	0	0	3	3
Maint Spec Bfc Jrny II/Lead	1	1	0	0	2
Mech Aircraft Adv Jrny	0	0	0	1	1
Mech Auto Journey	3	1	0	0	4
Natural Resource Mgr II	0	1	0	0	1
Procurement Spec II	1	0	0	0	1
Safety Officer	1	0	0	0	1
Stock & Parts Svcs Journey I	0	1	0	3	4
Stock & Parts Svcs Journey II	0	1	0	2	3
Stock & Parts Svcs Lead	0	1	0	0	1
Stock & Parts Svcs Sub Journey	0	6	0	4	10
Supply Technician II	0	0	0	1	1
Totals	11	57	0	141	209