

# **State of Alaska**

## **FY2012 Governor's Operating Budget**

### **Department of Natural Resources**

#### **Agricultural Development**

#### **Component Budget Summary**

## Component: Agricultural Development

### Contribution to Department's Mission

Promote and encourage development of an agriculture industry in Alaska.

### Core Services

- Agricultural land management and sales.
- Marketing services.
- Inspection services.

### Results at a Glance

(Additional performance information is available on the web at <http://omb.alaska.gov/results>.)

#### **END RESULT A: Development and expansion of Agriculture Industry in Alaska by providing marketing and educational information to Alaska producers and consumers.**

- Hosted 2 conferences, spoke at 47 events, administered 13 grants and produced 12 newsletters.
- Increased public awareness of Alaska Grown by participating in 232 public marketing outreach activities and managing 3 marketing campaigns.
- Reached 14% of the school districts through class presentations, educational grants and cooperating with Ag in the Classroom (AITC), increasing youth awareness of Alaska Grown.
- In 2009 \$31.9 million dollars was achieved as compared to \$32.4 million in 2008.

#### **Status of Strategies to Achieve End Result**

- Hosted 2 conferences, spoke at 47 events, administered 13 grants and produced 12 newsletters.
- Participated in 232 public marketing outreach activities and managed 3 marketing campaigns.
- Reached 14% of the school districts through class presentations, educational grants and cooperating with Ag in the Classroom (AITC).
- In 2009 \$31.9 million dollars was achieved as compared to \$32.4 million in 2008.

#### **END RESULT B: Ensure inspection and grading services are provided for agricultural production and sales.**

- In 2010, 428 inspections were requested and 100% were completed to meet statutory, federal and international contract requirements related to commercial sales activity. These inspections represent approximately \$66.4 million realized primarily from timber exports and Alaska produce. This compares to 401 inspections requested and completed in FY09, representing approximately \$43.1 million primarily from timber exports and Alaska produce.
- In 2010, 102 farm and retail inspections were completed, ensuring produce met USDA grade requirements for consumer protection and plant health requirements were met compared to 84 farm and retail inspections in 2009.

#### **Status of Strategies to Achieve End Result**

- 428 inspections were requested and 100% requests were completed to meet statutory, federal and international contract requirements in 2010. These inspections represent approximately \$66.4 million realized from timber exports and other products.
- In 2010, 102 inspections were completed and 139 brands as compared to, 84 total inspections in 2009.

#### **END RESULT C: Agriculture land is made available in a range of parcel sizes by regional and local demand for land sales.**

- 2010 auction sold 481 acres of agricultural land with an additional 202 acres currently available in the Initial Over the Counter Lottery (IOTC).

#### **Status of Strategies to Achieve End Result**

- A minimum of 481 acres of agricultural land were sold in 2010.

### Major Activities to Advance Strategies

• Help implement National Farm Bill through	• Maintain State Plant Health Programs to deliver pest
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<b>Major Activities to Advance Strategies</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>participation in the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA).</li> <li>Help implement National Farm Bill through participation in the Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture (WASDA).</li> <li>Farm Bill priorities for Alaska are specialty crop, equip, and Wildlife Habitat Improvement project.</li> <li>Set policy and manage the agricultural development program, the Northern Latitude Plant Materials Center, and the Agricultural Revolving Loan Fund.</li> <li>Provide administrative support to the Board of Agriculture and Conservation.</li> <li>Prepare land sales and work with the Board of Agriculture and Conservation and Soil and Water Districts to accomplish land disposals.</li> <li>Adjudicate lease and permit applications.</li> <li>Develop new statewide grazing policy and possibly new regulations.</li> <li>Provide inspections for elk farming to meet statutory requirements.</li> <li>Conduct produce inspections for USDA grade and buyer specifications.</li> <li>Cooperate with USDA to provide shell egg surveillance.</li> <li>Provide meat grading services as requested.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>exclusion and monitoring programs to support trade.</li> <li>Issue phytosanitary certificates for export products.</li> <li>Provide for organic product certification.</li> <li>Continue Cooperative Marketing Program</li> <li>Provide marketing assistance to farmers through information transfer.</li> <li>Manage Alaska Grown program.</li> <li>Assist farmer markets with promotional efforts.</li> <li>Assist seed growers with market development.</li> <li>Encourage use of Alaska Grown products by state and federal agencies.</li> <li>Monitor compliance with local purchase practice, statutes and regulations.</li> <li>Train staff in organic program management.</li> </ul>

## Key Component Challenges

- Increase public awareness of the importance of local food production through the Alaska Grown Program.
- Enforcing Alaska Grown preference law for state institutions to purchase Alaska Grown produce.
- Support Farmer's Markets which act as education incubators.
- Ensure the Alaska Grown Director's Policy is used for the benefit of the farm community state-wide.
- Increase independence from imported food.
- South Central sale of mid- sized agriculture parcels.
- Northern Region sale of agriculture parcels.
- Increase agriculture land development.
- Northern Region sale of 3840 acres will be offered in FY11/12.
- Monitor potato late blight to mitigate future outbreaks.

## Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2012

Continue to implement the new Farm to School program to increase the use of Alaska grown foods in public schools and make available existing curricula, programs and publications that educate students on the benefits of producing, preparing and consuming locally grown foods.

- Continue marketing to increase consumer awareness of Alaska Grown products.
- Develop rhubarb and specialty crop markets through funding from USDA.

## Major Component Accomplishments in 2010

- 100% requests were completed to meet statutory, federal and international inspection requirements.
- Enforced state statute and regulations regarding plant pests and the sale, certification, and labeling of agricultural products.
- Implemented USDA plant protection projects to prevent harm to the agriculture environment, natural resources and economic welfare.
- Sold 408 acres of agricultural land.

- Assisted producers in organic certification in cooperation with USDA.
- Added 27 new farms to the Alaska Grown user list an increase of 6% in one year.
- Helped facilitate the creation of Alaska's Food Policy Council.
- Delivered a monthly agriculture newsletter reporting on activities, division overview and grant availability.
- Assisted in the promotion and development of 29 farmers markets, a 120% increase over 2005 number.

### **Statutory and Regulatory Authority**

AS 03, AS 03.09, AS 03.10, AS 03.22, AS 38.05, AS 41.10, AS 41.17

#### **Contact Information**

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