

Forest Management - Current and Future

House Resources Committee

March 8, 2023

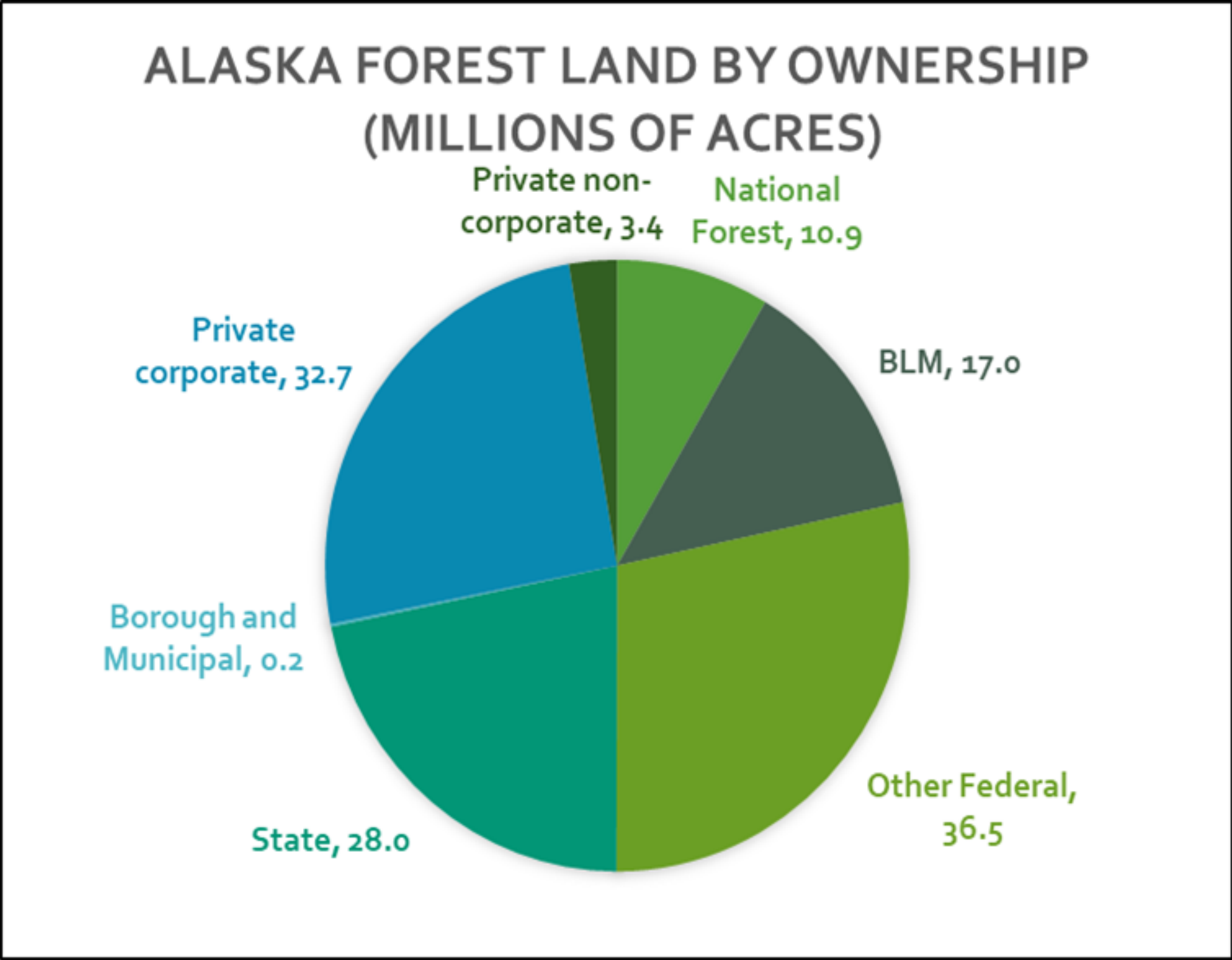


Presented by Helge Eng, Director & State Forester
Division of Forestry & Fire Protection
Department of Natural Resources





Forestland Ownership





Timber Ownership and Production

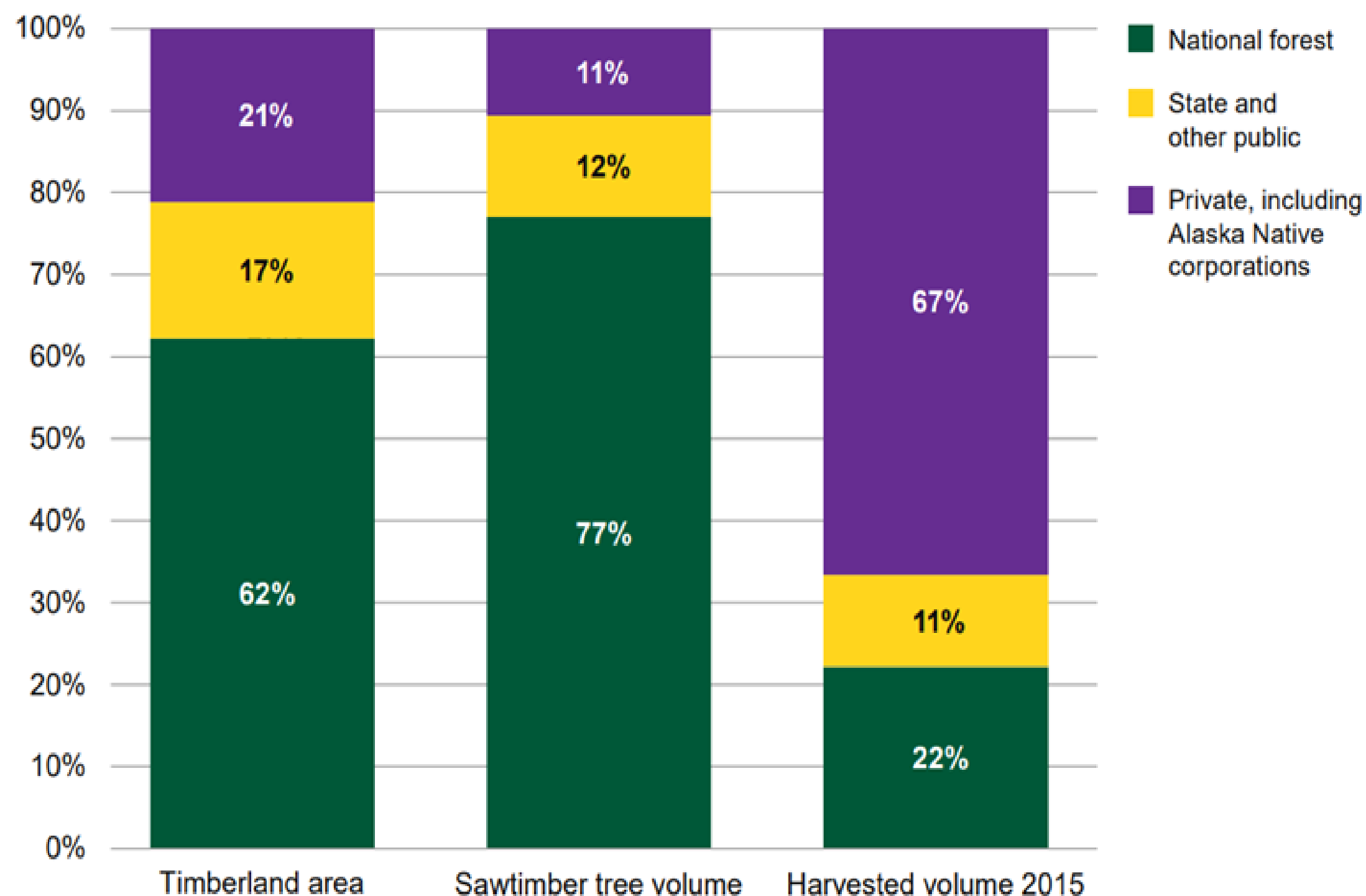


Figure 1—Characteristics of Alaska's timberland and timber harvest by ownership class, 2015 (BBER 2016, Miles, n.d.).



Forest Management

Alaska Constitution, Article VIII sections 1 and 4 require that timber resources are to be made available for maximum use consistent with the public interest and to be utilized, developed, and maintained on the sustained yield principle.





Sustained Yield

Harvesting at most the amount of timber growth that accumulates on the forest tract in any given year. This is often referred to as the annual allowable cut (AAC).

AS 41.17.950(26): The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of forest land and water without significant impairment of the productivity of the land and water; does not require that timber be harvested in a non-declining yield basis over a rotation period

AS 38.04.910(12): The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the state land consistent with multiple use.





Multiple Use



AS 38.04.910(5): The management of state land and its various resource values so that it is used in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the people of Alaska, making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; it includes

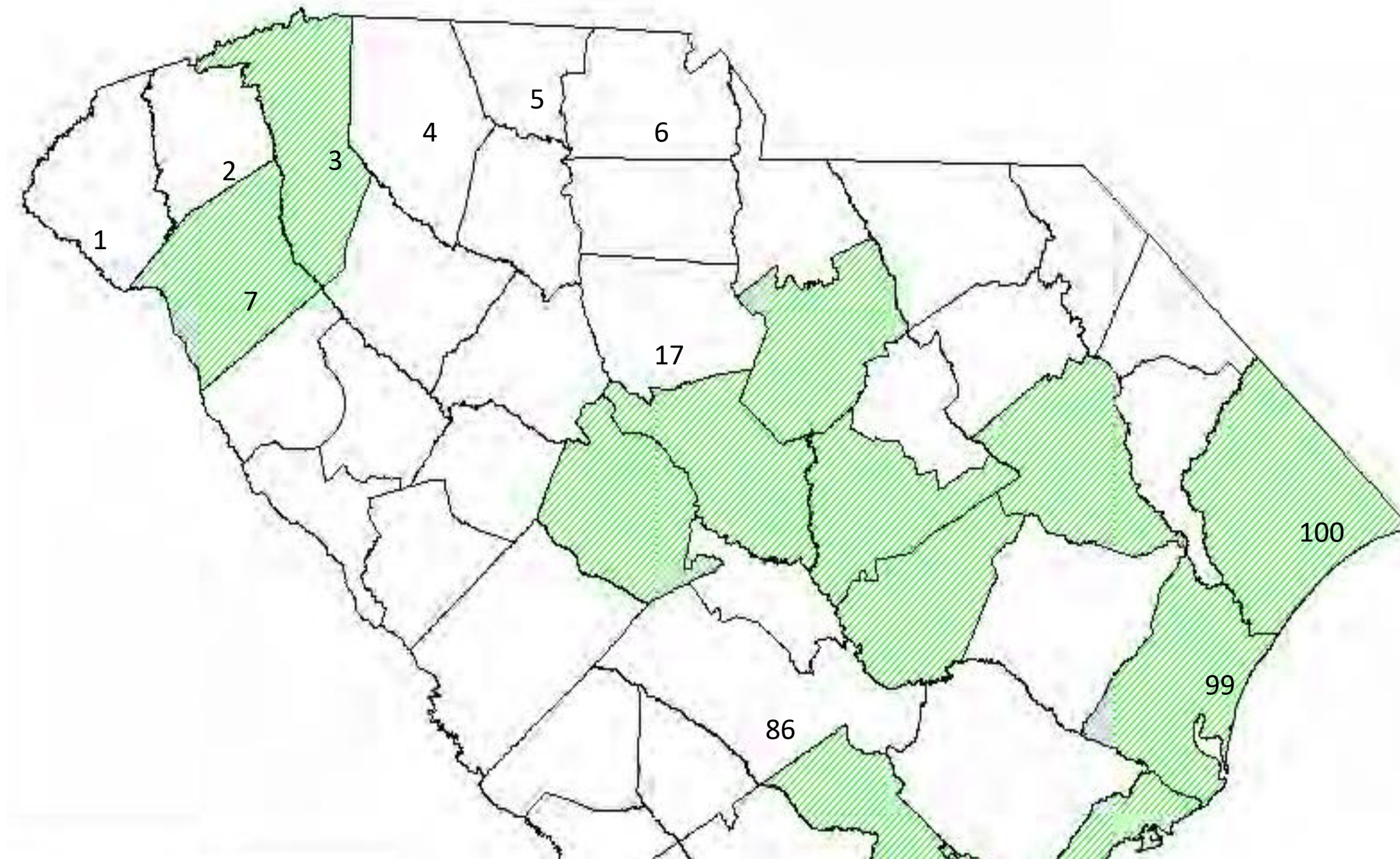
(A) the use of some land for less than all of the resources; and

(B) a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the short-term and long-term needs of present and future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific, and historic values.





Sustained Yield, Example



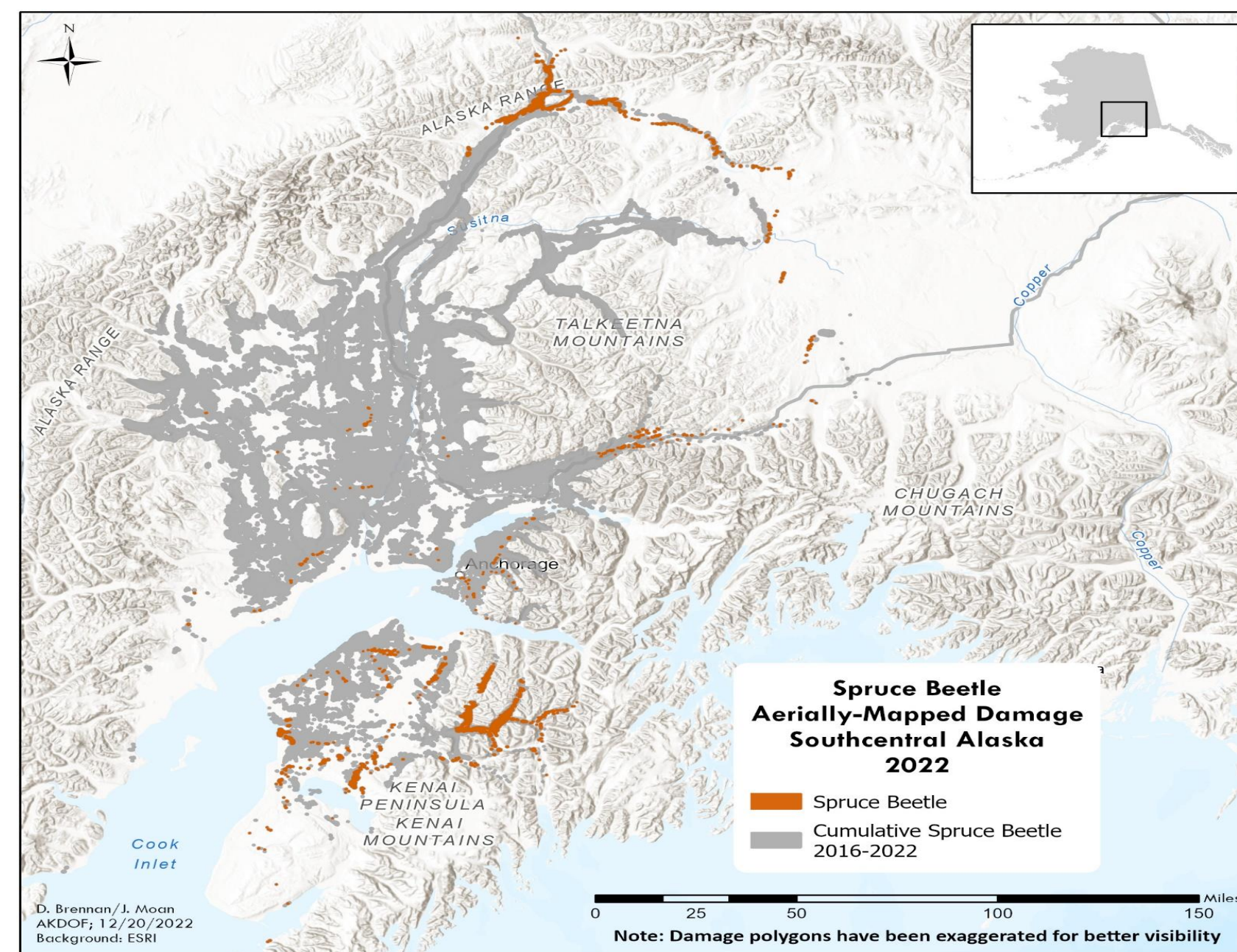


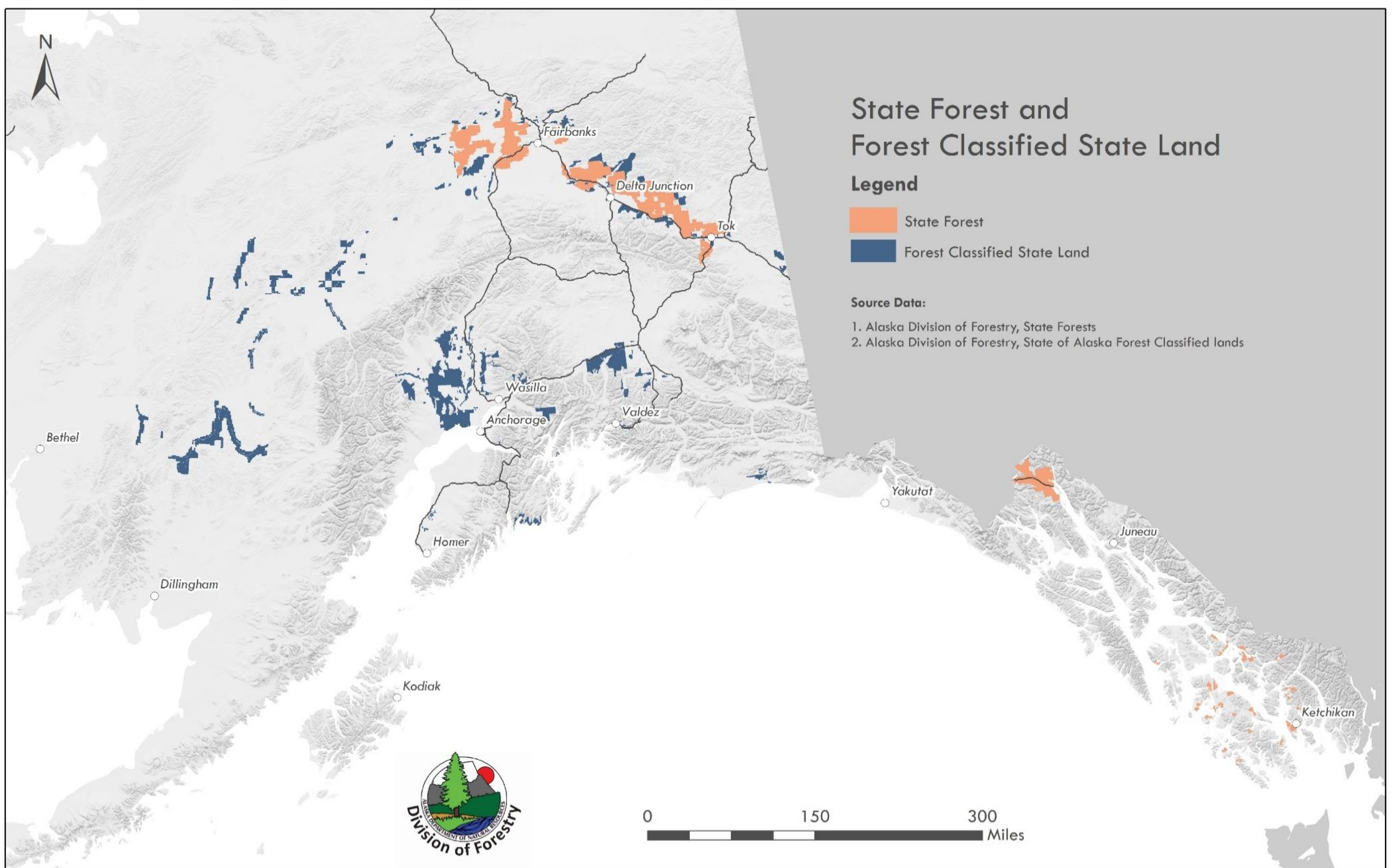
Sustained Yield, Example

Wildfire



Insects and Disease







State Forests



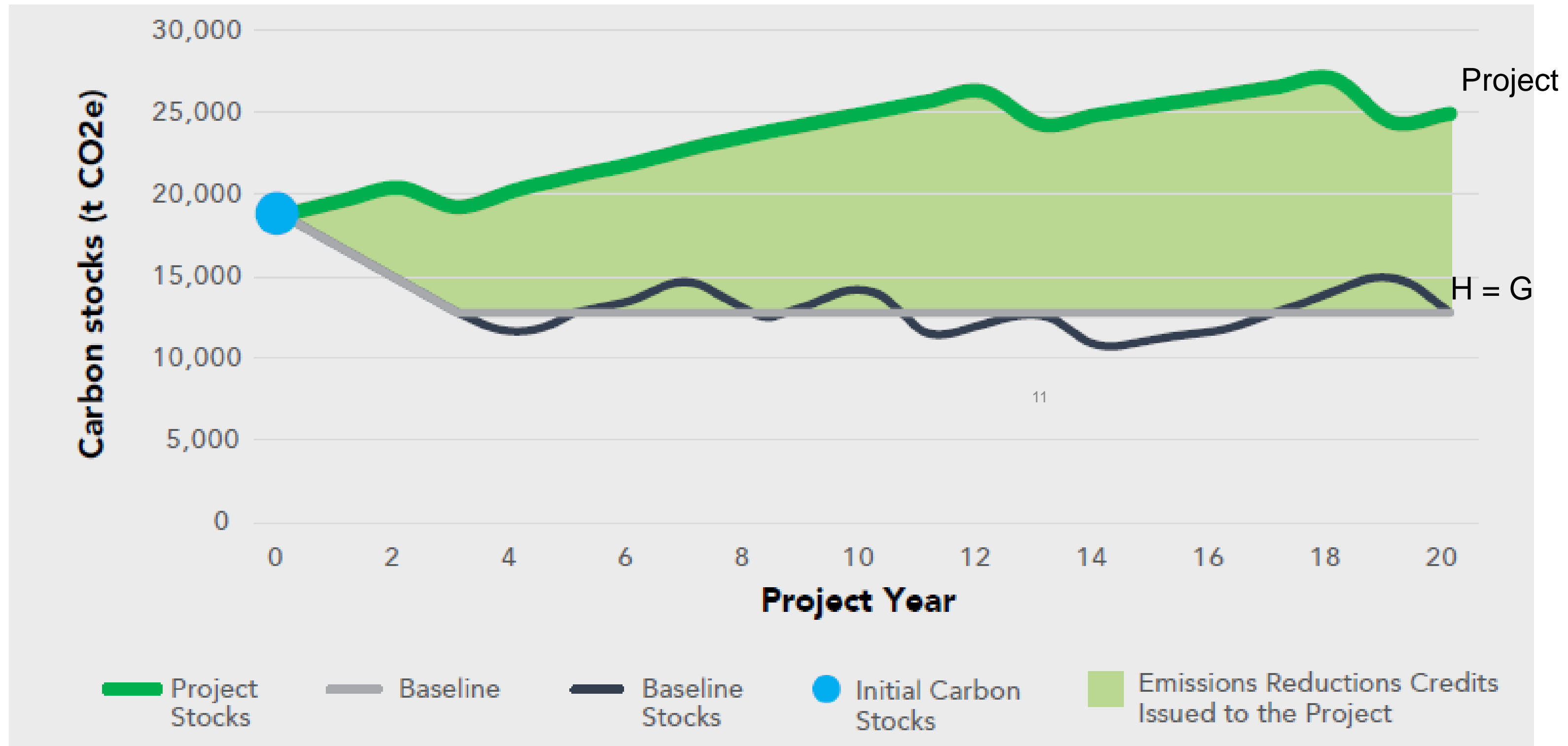
State Forests, managed by the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection, are generally more evenly managed and less event-driven than private lands or other State lands with a profit maximization objective:

- Multiple use mandates, including recreation
- Sustained yield mandate
- Provide the timber industry with a perpetual, stable, non-declining supply of raw material year after year
- Consider and incorporate public input

For these and other reasons, State Forests in most years harvest less than the sustained yield. They are therefore generally sought after for forest carbon offset projects.



Timber management and carbon offset projects are complementary





Thank You! Questions

Contacts

- Helge Eng, Division Director and State Forester
helge.eng@alaska.gov | 907.269.8474

