

**SB**

**76**

**SFIN**

**FILE**

SB 76

was referred to the  
Senate Finance  
Committee

Hearing(s) were held

The bill did not move  
from Committee



Official Business


# Alaska State Senate

## Senate Finance Committee

Mail Stop 3100  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate Finance Committee Members

FROM: Deb Davidson, Legislative Aide   
Senator Lyda Green, Co-Chair

DATE: February 28, 2003

RE: Public Defender Agency Caseload

Attached are two tables providing data on the Public Defender Agency caseload from FY 85 – FY 82 and a breakdown of new cases referred to the agency in FY 02. These tables were provided in response to Senator Wilken's questions at the February 25 Senate Finance meeting.

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## ALASKA PUBLIC DEFENDER AGENCY

## TOTAL NEW CASES FILED BY FY

FISCAL YEAR	FELONY	MISDEMEANOR		PROBATION REVOCATION			JUVENILE	CINA	SANITY	SENTENCE APPEAL		MERIT APPEAL			PCR'S	PAROLE BOARD	SPECIAL APPT.	TOTAL
		City	State	Fel	Mis	Juv				Fel	Mis	Fel	Mis	Other				
1985	1895	1886	6956	463	591	0	491	343	427	175	62	0	0	0	113	12	50	13464
1986	1830	186	7273	553	780	0	447	467	522	199	68	0	0	0	178	97	118	12718
1987	1873	127	7373	670	842	0	437	458	466	204	46	0	0	0	297	29	201	13023
1988	1821	50	7006	672	779	0	415	565	448	171	82	0	0	0	284	41	190	12524
1989	1946	65	7291	832	875	0	447	631	501	157	36	0	0	0	268	54	169	13272
1990	2110	35	8388	745	1178	0	529	821	545	158	22	0	0	0	236	90	44	14901
1991	1953		8728	860	1027	0	435	595	573	146	52	0	0	0	443	109	57	14978
1992	2113	54	9679	854	1566	0	500	589	753	142	49	0	0	0	613	127	55	17094
1993	2258	28	8708	771	1601	52	423	520	959	156	31	0	0	0	471	57	102	16137
1994	2358	36	9156	813	2031	55	540	530	1013	176	28	0	0	0	673	91	82	17582
1995	2466	16	8783	936	2238	47	536	637	879	47	5	84	102	29	501	83	4	17393
1996	2942	28	8522	1056	2360	130	521	623	846	56	18	95	38	23	476	113	19	17866
1997	3137	12	8568	1267	2373	171	651	608	924	54	14	109	13	9	438	103	12	18463
1998	3198	11	8526	1453	2620	131	679	840	1053	37	7	102	14	23	442	180	20	19336
1999	3159	20	7972	1410	2730	160	658	1003	1050	32	4	131	24	11	426	200	12	19002
2000	3191	7	8247	1599	2491	198	678	953	994	31	14	81	25	10	341	382	44	19286
2001	3200	0	8523	1634	2599	217	535	925	914	26	5	77	22	16	367	296	55	19411
2002	3609	0	9083	1675	2454	205	602	961	617	46	4	76	26	7	329	306	31	20031
TOTAL	45059	2561	148782	18263	31135	1366	9524	12069	13484	2013	547	755	264	128	6896	2370	1265	296481

ALASKA PUBLIC DEFENDER AGENCY

FY 02 NEW CASES FILED

LOCATION	FELONY	MISDEMEANOR		PROBATION REVOCATION			JUVENILE	CINA	SANITY	SENTENCE APPEAL		MERIT APPEAL			PCR'S	PAROLE BOARD	SPECIAL APPT.	TOTAL
		City	State	Fel	Mis	Jtiv				Fel	Mis	Fel	Mis	Other				
Anchorage	1515		1106	814	167	92	216	421	371	14	1	61	7	4	29	222	28	5068
Barrow	67		387	35	2	7	13	19	9	1	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	545
Bethel	251		1044	64	220	3	54	82	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1719
Dillingham	63		322	25	9	1	2	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	451
Fairbanks	423		1414	247	429	22	71	148	33	21	1	3	3		26	33		2874
Juneau	179		602	82	253	16	48	49	106	2	0	2	0	1	1	17	0	1358
Kenai	248		973	66	189	13	38	54	0	3	0	4	5	1	3	7	1	1605
Ketchikan	206		831	71	165	11	53	25	60	1	0	2	2	0	18	9	0	1454
Kodiak	67		220	35	48	7	14	13	5	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	1	416
Kotzebue	104		309	48	34	0	15	24	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	537
Nome	134		531	67	310	13	33	37	7	1	0	0	3	0	36	5	0	1177
Palmer	288		1101	105	551	20	39	57	1	2	0	1	3	1	208	9	0	2386
Sitka	64		243	16	77	0	6	3	24	0	2	1	0	0	4	0	1	441
																		0
																		0
																		0
TOTAL	3609	0	9083	1675	2454	205	602	961	617	46	4	76	26	7	329	306	31	20031

FY02 Optional Expenditures and Recipients (1)

Priority Type of Service

	Services	Recipients	Expenditures
1	Clinical Social Workers Services	-	\$ -
2	Psychologists Services	26	\$ 12,659.20
3	Chiropractic Services	193	\$ 14,222.61
4	Advanced Nurse Practitioner Services	2,461	\$ 612,611.82
5	Adult Dental Services	4,988	\$ 2,065,629.01
6	Emergency Hospital Services	-	\$ -
7	Midwife Services	254	\$ 277,281.25
8	Treatment of Speech, Hearing, and Language Disorders	1,128	\$ 825,162.99
9	Optometrists Services and Eyeglasses	12,042	\$ 1,247,127.15
10	Occupational Therapy	95	\$ 84,541.86
11	Mammography Screening	2,121	\$ 105,725.80
12	Prosthetic Devices	372	\$ 338,198.06
13	Medical Supplies and Equipment	3,568	\$ 3,740,140.74
14	Targeted Case Management Services	-	\$ -
	Rehabilitative Services for Substance Abusers and Emotionally		
15	Disturbed or Chronically Mentally Ill Adults	809	\$ 1,749,407.24
16	Clinic Services	4,241	\$ 14,042,584.82
17	Physical Therapy	1,289	\$ 1,138,526.68
18	Personal Care Services in a Recipient's Home	6,125	\$ 27,134,355.83
19	Prescribed Drugs	27,112	\$ 68,968,708.14
20	Hospice Care	3	\$ 28,163.78
21	Long-Term Care Noninstitutional Services	2,235	\$ 53,116,957.39
22	Inpatient Psychiatric Facility Services	14	\$ 279,281.93
23	Intermediate Care Facility Services for the Mentally Handicapped	-	\$ -
24	Intermediate Care Facility Services	-	\$ -
	Eligibility Groups	Recipients	Expenditures
25	DK <= 18 (TEFRA)	302	\$ 942,595.68
26	19 to 20 year olds	919	\$ 1,969,855.11
27	<= 20 nursing homes	-	\$ -
28	AD and OA	7,642	\$ 57,816,844.64
29	IN (300%)	932	\$ 19,758,263.34
30	<= 18 custody kids	14,142	\$ 18,070,403.51
31	state only adopted kids	134	\$ 159,497.16
32	DW	185	\$ 370,038.25
	Eligibility Groups	Recipients	Expenditures
	Title XXI Rolled back to below 150% (cut CP)	6,075	\$ 8,944,624.00
	note: we would most likely realize only this due to XIX eligibility	10,435	\$ 15,312,616.00
	<b>Total Title XXI</b>	<b>15,119</b>	<b>\$ 26,439,196.00</b>
	Breast and Cervical Cancer	42	\$ 448,827.41
	Pregnant Women >= 133% FPL (2)	2,272	\$ 10,092,916.08
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 336,106,963.49</b>

(1) This data represents MMIS claims only. Each group is exclusive in nature so that the total at the bottom IS the total unduplicated expenditures for the groups in FY02.

(2) This is an estimated number based on the 133% PG report from DPA.

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# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



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## SENATOR LYDA GREEN SENATE DISTRICT N

August 5, 2002

The Honorable Jay Livey, Commissioner  
Department of Health and Social Services  
P.O. Box 110601  
Juneau, AK 99811-0601

Dear Commissioner Livey:

I received your letter of July 26 regarding the denial of Alaska's Fair Share program proposal by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Thank you for keeping me informed.

As you are aware, the more than \$50 million general fund savings which Fair Share program was intended to save the State of Alaska was fully utilized in other budget categories. At this point, it would be prudent for the Department of Health and Social Services to pursue all available cost cutting strategies in the Medicaid program in order to minimize the impact of the Fair Share program on the overall budget. There is certainly no guarantee that the Legislature or even the next administration will be willing or able to cover a general fund supplemental of this magnitude. I strongly urge you to do everything possible to reduce the impact of this program denial on the state budget.

I understand that you and the staff of the Division of Medical Assistance believe that Alaska has a good chance of prevailing in this case on appeal. I encourage you to pursue that appeal with vigor. More important to my mind, however, is how you prepare to deal with the situation should that appeal fail or should the ultimate decision in this case be postponed beyond the current fiscal year. I would remind you that there is no other division or department in state government that can absorb this \$50 million loss in funding should you not take steps to reduce spending in this program. Please keep me updated routinely as to your plans to make up this shortfall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyda Green".

Senator Lyda Green, Chair  
Finance Subcommittee on the Department of Health and Social Services

for state-funded programs previously paid for with direct state grants or contracts. It is anticipated that up to 95 percent of the funds made available will be appropriated to the Medicaid Services BRU to cover the state match requirement for the hospital refinancing payments and other Medicaid services.

#### Reduced Interagency Receipts (I/A)

The division is requesting a reduction in I/A receipts to more accurately reflect current activity of PFD Hold Harmless Program and Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) Severely Emotionally Disturbed (SED) receipts.

#### Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)

Alaska's federal FY02 FMAP rate was decreased to 57.38 percent for Title XIX and 70.17 percent for Title XXI. This is a significant drop from FY01 that carries with it a potential loss of federal funds for Alaska of more than \$10 million. On November 6, 2001, U.S. Senator Max Baucus introduced the "Economic Recovery and Assistance for American Workers Act of 2001" that includes FMAP relief. The Act holds harmless states with 02 FMAP rates that were reduced, provides an across-the-board 1 percent increase and an additional 1 percent increase to states with a higher than average unemployment rate over the previous 3 months.

In anticipation of the enactment of the Economic Recovery and Assistance for American Workers Act of 2001, the department is not asking for additional general funds to replace potentially lost federal dollars at this time.

## Major Component Accomplishments in 2001

### **FY01 Hospital ProShare**

In FY01, the department was able to capitalize on remaining federal ProShare allowances by payment of \$39.4 million. This payment provided the division with an additional \$11.8 million in statutory designated program receipts earmarked for claims payments.

### **Non IMD DSH**

In federal FY01, the division implemented a refinancing project capitalizing on Non IMD DSH funds available to Alaska. \$4.9 million in total funds were distributed to Alaskan hospitals that have programs serving a disproportionate share of low-income persons.

### **Breast and Cervical Cancer**

Congressional legislation created a new Medicaid eligibility group of women requiring treatment of breast or cervical cancer, screened under the Breast and Cervical Cancer Detection Program. Medicaid eligibility for this group lasts through treatment and includes all Medicaid covered services. This program was implemented in FY01 with the first recipients treated in July.

### **Denali KidCare Program**

Alaska's Denali KidCare (DKC) program is a continuing success that provides needed medical care to children who may otherwise go without. In FY01, the DKC renewal certification process was streamlined through the use of preprinted forms to ensure continued access to medical services for Alaska's eligible children. In addition, program information has been translated and distributed in written form in 9 languages.

	Appropriation	General	Other
	Allocations	Funds	Funds
1			
2			
3	Inmate Health Care	4,323,400	
4	Inmate Programs	564,800	
5	Transportation and	60,200	
6	Classification		

7                                   \* \* \* \* \*

8                   \* \* \* \* \* **Department of Education and Early Development** \* \* \* \* \*

9                                   \* \* \* \* \*

10	<b>Executive Administration</b>	-700	-700
11	Agency-wide Unallocated	-700	
12	Reduction		

13	<b>Teaching and Learning Support</b>	211,600	111,600	100,000
14	Special and Supplemental	211,600		
15	Services			

16                                   \* \* \* \* \*

17                   \* \* \* \* \* **Department of Health and Social Services** \* \* \* \* \*

18                                   \* \* \* \* \*

19	<b>Commissioner's Office</b>	220,500	220,500
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20 No money appropriated in this appropriation may be expended for an abortion that is not a  
21 mandatory service required under AS 47.07.030(a). This statement is a statement of the  
22 purpose of this appropriation and is neither merely descriptive language nor a statement of  
23 legislative intent.

24	Commissioner's Office	220,500	
25	<b>Medical Assistance</b>	28,942,200	28,942,200
26	Medicaid Services	28,942,200	

27 No money appropriated in this appropriation may be expended for an abortion that is not a  
28 mandatory service required under AS 47.07.030(a).



29 The money appropriated for Medical Assistance may be expended only for mandatory  
30 services required under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and for optional services offered  
31 by the state under the state plan for medical assistance that has been approved by the United  
32 States Department of Health and Human Services. This statement is a statement of the  
33 purpose of the appropriation for Medical Assistance and is neither merely descriptive

1	<b>Appropriation</b>		<b>General</b>	<b>Other</b>
2	<b>Allocations</b>	<b>Items</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>
3	language nor a statement of legislative intent.			
4	It is the intent of the legislature that the amount appropriated in this appropriation is the full			
5	amount that will be appropriated for Medical Assistance for the fiscal year ending June 30,			
6	2003. If the amount appropriated in this appropriation is not sufficient to cover the costs of			
7	Medical Assistance for all eligible persons, the department shall eliminate coverage for			
8	optional medical services that have a federal match and optionally eligible groups of			
9	individuals in accordance with AS 47.07.035. It is the intent of the Legislature that requests			
10	for supplemental appropriations for Medical Assistance for the fiscal year ending June 30,			
11	2003 will not be approved. This intent covers the budgeted reductions to Medicaid, but does			
12	not apply to any loss of funds that may occur if the department's "Fair Share" funding			
13	mechanism is not approved by the federal government.			
14	<b>Purchased Services</b>	<b>6,004,200</b>	<b>5,604,200</b>	<b>400,000</b>
15	Family Preservation	250,000		
16	Foster Care Augmented Rate	500,000		
17	Foster Care Special Need	747,900		
18	Foster Care Alaska Youth	400,000		
19	Initiative			
20	Residential Child Care	4,106,300		
21	<b>Family and Youth Services</b>	<b>148,600</b>	<b>148,600</b>	
22	Front Line Social Workers	148,600		
23	<b>Juvenile Justice</b>	<b>292,300</b>	<b>292,300</b>	
24	McLaughlin Youth Center	159,500		
25	Fairbanks Youth Facility	81,900		
26	Bethel Youth Facility	50,900		
27	<b>State Health Services</b>	<b>4,655,200</b>	<b>4,404,100</b>	<b>251,100</b>
28	Maternal, Child, and Family	253,600		
29	Health			
30	Healthy Families	100,000		
31	Community Health Grants	98,300		
32	Infant Learning Program	4,203,300		
33	Grants			

(1) is required by a medical support order under AS 25.27.060(c) to provide coverage of the costs of medical care to a child who is eligible for medical assistance under this chapter;

(2) has received payment from a third party for the costs of the services; and

(3) has not used the payments to reimburse, as appropriate, the other parent or custodian of the child, the provider of the services, or the department.

(c) Garnishment under (b) of this section is limited to the amount necessary to reimburse the department for expenditures for the child under this chapter. Claims for current support or support arrearages take priority over claims under this section. (§ 18 ch 102 SLA 1994; am § 22 ch 106 SLA 2000)

**Cross references.** — For legislative purposes in enacting this section, see § 1, ch. 102, SLA 1994 in the Temporary and Special Acts.

**Effect of amendments.** — The 2000 amendment, effective June 2, 2000, made a section reference substitution in paragraph (b)(1).

**Sec. 47.07.030. Medical services to be provided.** (a) The department shall offer all mandatory services required under 42 U.S.C. 1396 — 1396p (Title XIX of the Social Security Act).

(b) In addition to the mandatory services specified in (a) of this section and the services provided under (d) of this section, the department may offer only the following optional services: case management and nutrition services for pregnant women; personal care services in a recipient's home; emergency hospital services; long-term care noninstitutional services; medical supplies and equipment; advanced nurse practitioner services; clinic services; rehabilitative services for children eligible for services under AS 47.07.063, substance abusers, and emotionally disturbed or chronically mentally ill adults; targeted case management services for substance abusers, chronically mentally ill adults, and severely emotionally disturbed persons under the age of 21; inpatient psychiatric facility services for individuals age 65 or older and individuals under age 21; psychologists' services; clinical social workers' services; midwife services; prescribed drugs; physical therapy; occupational therapy; chiropractic services; low-dose mammography screening, as defined in AS 21.42.375(e); hospice care; treatment of speech, hearing, and language disorders; adult dental services; prosthetic devices and eyeglasses; optometrists' services; intermediate care facility services, including intermediate care facility services for the mentally retarded; skilled nursing facility services for individuals under age 21; and reasonable transportation to and from the point of medical care.

(c) Notwithstanding (b) of this section, the department may offer a service for which the department has received a waiver from the federal government if the department was authorized, directed, or requested to apply for the waiver by law or by a concurrent or joint resolution of the legislature. The department shall annually make available to the legislature its recommendations about where a service offered under this subsection should be placed on the priority list in AS 47.07.035. The department shall notify the legislature that the recommendations are available.

(d) The department may establish as optional services a primary care case management system or a managed care organization contract in which certain eligible individuals are required to enroll and seek approval from a case manager or the managed care organization before receiving certain services. The department shall establish enrollment criteria and determine eligibility for services consistent with federal and state law. (§ 1 ch 182 SLA 1972; am § 1 ch 35 SLA 1973; am § 2 ch 105 SLA 1974; am § 1 ch 12 SLA 1976; am § 2 ch 221 SLA 1976; am § 1 ch 82 SLA 1978; am § 25 ch 40 SLA 1981; am § 2 ch 132 SLA 1982; am § 1 ch 20 SLA 1986; am § 4 ch 105 SLA 1986; am § 2 ch 119 SLA 1988; am § 3 ch 45 SLA 1989; am § 3 ch 69 SLA 1991; am § 1 ch 70 SLA 1991; am § 1 ch 38 SLA 1992; am § 1 ch 110 SLA 1992; am § 2 ch 51 SLA 1993; am § 1 ch 75 SLA 1993; am § 2 ch 76 SLA 1993; am § 19 ch 102 SLA 1994; am § 108 ch 21 SLA 1995; am §§ 3, 4 ch 140 SLA 1998; am § 5 ch 130 SLA 2002)

**Effect of amendments.** — The first 1991 amendment, effective September 19, 1991, inserted "low-dose mammography screening, as defined in AS 21.42.375(e)" near the middle of subsection (b).

The second 1991 amendment, effective September 19, 1991, inserted "psychologists' services; clinical social workers' services" near the middle of subsection (b).

The first 1992 amendment, effective July 1, 1992, in subsection (b), inserted "rehabilitative services for substance abusers and emotionally disturbed or chronically mentally ill adults; targeted case management services for substance abusers, chronically mentally ill adults, and severely emotionally disturbed persons under the age of 21;"

The second 1992 amendment, effective September 20, 1992, inserted "advanced nurse practitioner services;" in subsection (b).

The first 1993 amendment, effective July 1, 1993, inserted "midwife services" near the middle of subsection (b).

The second 1993 amendment, effective January 1, 1994, inserted "hospice care" near the end of subsection (b).

The third 1993 amendment, effective June 26, 1993, added subsection (c).

The 1994 amendment, effective September 7, 1994, added subsection (d).

The 1995 amendment, effective August 8, 1995, subsection (c), substituted "make available" for "submit" in the second sentence and added the last sentence.

The 1998 amendment, effective July 2, 1998, inserted "and the services provided under (d) of this section" near the beginning of subsection (b) and rewrote subsection (d).

The 2002 amendment, effective July 6, 2002, inserted "children eligible for services under 47.07.063" near the middle of subsection (b).

**Legislative history reports.** — For governmental transmittal letter concerning the amendment to sections (b) and (d) by ch. 140, SLA 1998 (369(FIN)am), see 1998 House Journal 2159.

**Collateral references.** — Transsexual surgery covered operation under state medical assistance program, 2 ALR4th 775.

Limitation on right of chiropractors and osteopaths to participate in public medical assistance programs, 8 ALR4th 1056.

**Sec. 47.07.035. Priority of medical assistance.** If the department finds that the cost of medical assistance for all persons eligible under this chapter will exceed the amount allocated in the state budget for that assistance for the fiscal year, the department shall eliminate coverage for optional medical services and optionally eligible groups of individuals in the following order:

- (1) clinical social workers' services;
- (2) psychologists' services;
- (3) chiropractic services;
- (4) advanced nurse practitioner services;
- (5) adult dental services;
- (6) emergency hospital services;
- (7) midwife services;
- (8) treatment of speech, hearing, and language disorders;
- (9) optometrists' services and eyeglasses;
- (10) occupational therapy;
- (11) mammography screening;
- (12) prosthetic devices;
- (13) medical supplies and equipment;
- (14) targeted case management services;
- (15) rehabilitative services for substance abusers and emotionally disturbed or chronically mentally ill adults;
- (16) clinic services;
- (17) physical therapy;
- (18) personal care services in a recipient's home;
- (19) prescribed drugs;
- (20) hospice care;
- (21) long-term care noninstitutional services;
- (22) inpatient psychiatric facility services;
- (23) intermediate care facility services for the mentally retarded;
- (24) intermediate care facility services;
- (25) individuals described in AS 47.07.020(b)(11);
- (26) individuals under age 21 who are not eligible for benefits under the federal program designated as the successor to the aid to families with dependent children.

program because they are not deprived of one or more of their natural or adoptive parents;

(27) skilled nursing facility services for persons under age 21;

(28) aged, blind, and disabled individuals who, because they do not meet the income requirements, do not receive supplemental security income under Title XVI of the Social Security Act, but who are eligible, or would be eligible if they were not in a skilled nursing facility or intermediate care facility, to receive an optional state supplementary payment;

(29) individuals in a hospital, skilled nursing facility, or intermediate care facility whose income while in the facility does not exceed 300 percent of the supplemental security income benefit rate under Title XVI of the Social Security Act, but who, because of their income, are not eligible for the optional state supplementary payment;

(30) individuals under age 21 under supervision of the department for whom maintenance is being paid in whole or in part from public money and who are in foster homes or private child-care institutions;

(31) individuals under age 21 who the department has determined cannot be placed for adoption without medical assistance because of a special need for medical or rehabilitative care and who the department has determined are hard-to-place children eligible for subsidy under AS 25.23.190 — 25.23.220;

(32) individuals who are eligible under AS 47.07.020(b)(12). (§ 3 ch 132 SLA 1982; am § 20 ch 20 SLA 1986; am § 5 ch 105 SLA 1986; am § 3 ch 119 SLA 1988; am § 4 ch 45 SLA 1989; am § 38 ch 168 SLA 1990; am § 4 ch 69 SLA 1991; am § 2 ch 70 SLA 1991; am § 2 ch 38, SLA 1992; am § 2 ch 110 SLA 1992; am § 3 ch 51 SLA 1993; am § 2 ch 75 SLA 1993; am § 3 ch 76 SLA 1993; am § 43 ch 107 SLA 1996; am § 2 ch 130 SLA 1998)

**Reviser's notes.** — Paragraphs (14) and (15) enacted as (12) and (13) and renumbered in 1992. Paragraph (20) was enacted as (19), and paragraph (29) was enacted as (29). Renumbered in 1993.

Under § 4, ch. 76, SLA 1993, paragraph (25) took effect on March 30, 1994, the 180th day after the effective date of Medicaid plan amendments that were approved by the federal government on January 7, 1994.

**Effect of amendments.** — The first 1991 amendment, effective September 19, 1991, added paragraph (11) and redesignated the succeeding paragraphs accordingly.

The second 1991 amendment, effective September 19, 1991, added former paragraph (1) and (2) and redesignated the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

The first 1992 amendment, effective July 1, 1992, added paragraphs (12) and (13) (now (13) and (14)) and redesignated former paragraphs (12) to (24) as paragraphs (14) to (26) (now (15) — (19), (20) — (24), (25) — (30)).

The second 1992 amendment, effective September 20, 1992, added paragraph (4) and redesignated the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

The first 1993 amendment, effective July 1, 1993, added former paragraph (1) and redesignated the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

The second 1993 amendment, effective January 1, 1994, added present paragraph (20) and renumbered the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

The third 1993 amendment added a paragraph (23) (now (25)), redesignated the subsequent paragraphs accordingly, and added paragraph (30) (now (31)).

The 1996 amendment, effective July 1, 1997, inserted "program designated as the successor to the" in paragraph (26).

The 1998 amendment, effective September 22, 1998, deleted former paragraph (1), which read: "midwife services;" and redesignated former paragraphs (2)-(7) as paragraphs (1)-(6); added present paragraphs (7) and (32); and made minor stylistic changes.

**47.07.040. State plan for provision of medical assistance.** The department shall prepare a state plan in accordance with the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 1396 — 1396p-9 (Title XIX, Social Security Act, Medical Assistance) and submit it for approval to the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The plan shall designate that the Department of Health and Social Services is the single state agency to administer this program. The department shall act for the state in any negotiations relative to the submission and approval of the plan. The department may make those arrangements or regulatory changes, not inconsistent with law, as may be required under federal law to obtain and secure the approval of the United States Department of Health and Human Services to secure for the state the optimum federal payment under the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 1396 — 1396p-9 (Title XIX, Social Security Act, Medical Assistance). (§ 1 ch 182 SLA 1972; am § 6 ch 105 SLA 1986; am E.O. No. 72 § 3 (1989); am § 32 ch 126 SLA 1994)

**Questions raised at 2/21/03 Committee hearing re: Fire Supplemental**

1. Do we pay for damages or provide suppression for cabin/homesites in limited protection?

No. See attached

2. Do we send firefighting billings to private landowners?

Private landowners do not pay for wild land fire suppression. 41.15.010 gives the State responsibility for wildland fire suppression on State, private and municipal lands in Alaska. If it is identified that a landowner is responsible for the cause of the fire then the landowner is billed for suppression costs.

3. Do we plan to change land protection categories?

The major landowners and fire suppression agencies review and revise protection levels on a regular basis. Based on this review, lands are moved from one category to another in the fire plan.

4. What is our policy regarding protection of mining improvements and equipment in limited protection?

Same as with cabin sites. See Attached

5. What are the flight hours for the two PC-7 aircraft by tail number and by in state verses out of state use?

**Flight Time Breakdown PC-7s**

Aircraft	Flight Time Billing			Total Flight Time
	State	Federal In State	Federal Out of State	
N901AK	96.6	99.9	122.3	318.8
N902AK	110.3	100.9	0.0	211.2

6. Why do we need to buy weather information?

We are no longer buying weather information from the US Weather Service. We now receive that information through the USFS and/or BLM. We used to pay for the university to have weather technicians work for us to interpret the free weather data and provide stand up briefings to the firefighters and the fire managers. Under the new or recent national fire plan, the federal government now provides each region of the US a forecaster so we no longer need to pay the university.

7. If an aircraft started a fire, do we go after their insurance companies?

*Provided by DNR, 02/24/03*

If it were an accidental crash we would not. If there were some reason to expect negligence we would.

8. What is the difference in fire fighting between the State of Alaska and Alberta or British Columbia?

We have worked closely with our neighboring Canadian provinces and we believe we have a very similar philosophy; that is to rapidly and safely initial attack all fires that are in full and critical and represent a potential loss of life and property. The Canadians have often expressed envy at our ability to identify areas that are not cost effective to rapidly initial attack because of their remoteness and lack of threat to property. For comparison, in the 2001 fire season, British Columbia had 1266 fires that were suppressed at approximately 25,000 acres for a total cost of \$53.8 million dollars (CDN). By comparison, in the 2002 fire season, the State of Alaska spent approximately \$30 million (US) on suppressing fires on approximately 887,000 acres of State and private lands. While it is always risky to compare fire costs from different areas, we believe that our lower costs are because of the Alaska Fire Plan. The preparedness budget for British Columbia is approximately \$ 47.3 million dollars Canadian.

9. The history of fire ratifications?

<b>DNR Fire Suppression Ratifications</b>			
<b>FY</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>Fed</b>
FY02	\$16,340,900.00	\$13,340,900.00	\$3,000,000.00
FY01	\$4,730,000.00	\$4,730,000.00	\$0.00
FY00	\$4,239,122.36	\$4,239,122.36	\$0.00
FY99	\$3,863,700.00	\$3,863,700.00	\$0.00
FY98	\$5,391,004.00	\$5,391,004.00	\$0.00

## Fire Protection for Remote Locations

Each fire season the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry (DOF) is asked this question, "Why isn't my remote parcel or mining claim receiving fire protection?" This is a reasonable question, but unfortunately the answers are not to everyone's satisfaction as not all parcels are afforded the same level of protection. Part of the answer is found in the Alaska Interagency Fire Management Plan (Fire Plan) that was developed to provide a coordinated and cost effective approach to fire management on all lands in Alaska. ANSCA, ANILCA, and other land management and planning documents also have some bearing on which lands receive fire protection.

Alaska covers 375 million acres of which 220 million acres are subject to wildland fire. These vast acreages are managed by state, federal, municipal, private and Native landowners. Since 1980, the Fire Plan has guided wildland fire management actions on all ownerships across the state. Copies of the Fire Plan can be found at government offices across Alaska or on the DOF website: <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry>.

The Fire Plan categorizes all wildland fire-prone lands into four different fire management options: Critical, Full, Modified, and Limited. The fire suppression actions on these four options range from immediate and aggressive fire suppression on the Critical option to the Limited option lands where wildland fires are allowed to burn. All lands that fall in a specific management option receive the specified level of protection. The only exception is if a critical site has been identified by the land manager/owner.

The Fire Plan is updated each winter and recommended changes to management options on lands of all ownerships are evaluated as outlined in the Fire Plan. Recently the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) placed lands receiving Full protection on the Seward Peninsula into the Limited management option to reduce suppression costs and because land managers felt that wildland fire would be beneficial to the land. At the same time, land in the Limited management option in the Fairbanks vicinity was converted to Full protection because of planned subdivisions in the area.

In 1992 DNR adopted a structure protection policy for all state, municipal, and private lands covered by the Fire Plan. The State of Alaska is responsible for paying the costs of fighting fires on these lands. This policy mandates that structures (or other improvements) will receive the same level of protection as the surrounding lands. This means if the structure or other improvement is in a Full management option area, it will receive that level of protection. However, if a similar structure or other improvement is located in a Limited management option area, it will not be protected.

DNR adopted this structure protection policy to reduce the costs of fighting wildland fires. DNR has determined that it is cost prohibitive to provide protection to structures or improvements in the remote parts of the state where the land has been placed in the Limited management option. Even if DNR policy allowed for the protection of all mines and private property in the Limited management option areas, there simply are not enough firefighting resources available to accomplish it. Therefore, in many remote

locations in Alaska, the responsibility for structure protection is the responsibility of the private property owners.

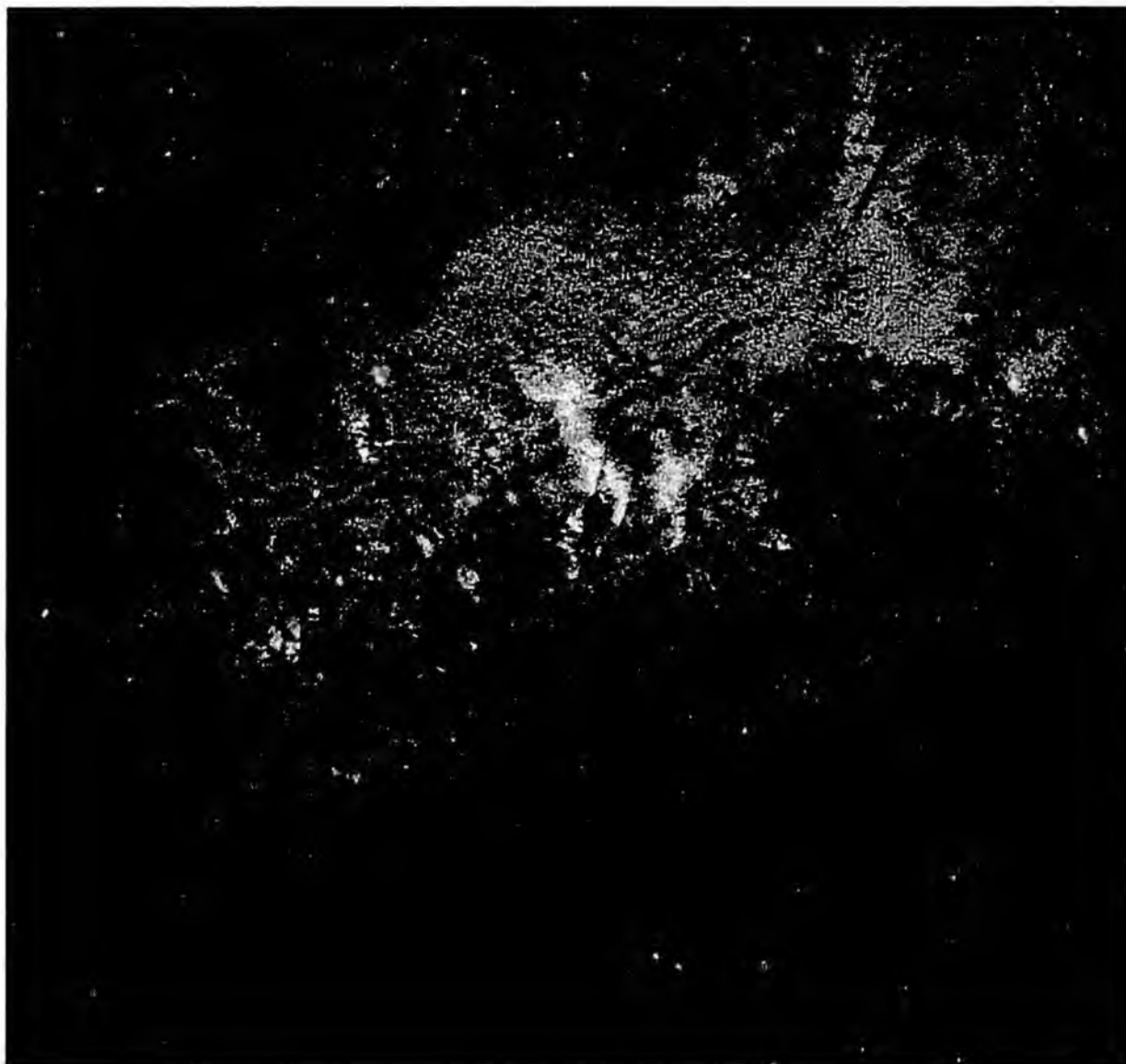
The most important thing that miners and remote property owners can do is make their structures and mining claims more fire resistant and easy to protect. Owners can do this by removing accumulations of flammable fuels, moving flammable materials away from structures, and other activities that reduce the flammability of improvements. DOF has information available for miners and property owners on how to reduce the fire potential of their property. Most of these tasks are easy to accomplish and are essential to keeping an area from burning.

For more information about making your property FireWise, contact the nearest DOF office or call 907-269-8400. Please check out the following websites:

<http://www.firewise.org>

<http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry/fire.htm>

**State of Alaska**  
**Department of Natural Resources**  
**Division of Forestry**



**Wildland Fire & Aviation**  
**Basics**

## THE BASICS

### STATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR FIRE PROTECTION

**Alaska Statutes Section 41.15.010 - 41.15.240** mandates the Department of Natural Resources the responsibility to manage the wildland fire program for the State of Alaska. Department of Natural Resources **Department Order 113** delegates this responsibility to the Division of Forestry.

**Alaska Statutes Section 41.15.210** establishes a Fire Suppression Fund in the state treasury for use of the Department. Department Order 113 delegates the responsibility for expenditure of the suppression fund to the Division of Forestry. The Division of Forestry is the only entity in the State of Alaska authorized to spend/obligate funds from the Fire Suppression Fund to suppress wildland fires on private, state, or municipal lands.

The **goal** of the Division of Forestry Fire & Aviation Program is to **provide safe, cost-effective, and efficient fire protection services** and related fire and aviation management activities to protect natural surface resources, man-made improvements, and human life on State, private, and municipal lands commensurate with the values at risk.

The **objectives** of the Division of Forestry are to:

- Protect human life
- Emphasize aggressive and effective initial attack suppression operations on critical and full fires
- Protect developed public and private property and cultural resources
- Promote an interagency approach to managing wildland fire
- Minimize cost and resource damage consistent with values at risk
- Prevent unplanned human-caused ignitions
- Promote public understanding of fire management programs and objectives
- Organize and maintain a fire management capability to consistently apply the highest standards of professional and technical expertise
- Investigate all human-caused fires



## IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THE FIRE & AVIATION PROGRAM ARE:

### WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY

**Safety of firefighters and the public is the highest priority.** All fire and aviation activities related to the suppression of wildland fires will reflect this commitment. The Division of Forestry has a very good safety record, and the safety attitude is reflected in all levels of the organization.

### INTERAGENCY COORDINATION & COOPERATION

Fire management planning, preparedness, suppression operations, prescribed fire, and related activities will be coordinated on an interagency basis with the full involvement of DOF and its state, federal and local government cooperators. **Alaska has been divided into three fire protection areas** through formal agreements between the state and the federal government.

## Fire Preparedness Fire Protection Boundaries



The **Division of Forestry, Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service**, fight fires within their protection areas on all land ownerships which reduces the duplication of facilities and services. None of the agencies in Alaska have all of the resources required to accomplish the fire protection job on their own. The Division of Forestry **has cooperative agreements** with the Departments of Agriculture and Interior, and numerous local government and volunteer fire departments to help get the job done. The state and federal agencies routinely utilize each other's personnel and resources to both manage and fight fires. This is efficient and cost effective.

**The three suppression agencies are responsible for their own preparedness costs** in order to be ready to fight fire on all lands in their protection area regardless of ownership. When fire activity occurs, the appropriate suppression agency responds to the fire guided by the level of protection selected by the land owner/manager in the Alaska Interagency Fire Management Plan. At the end of the fire season, the agencies cross bill each other for the suppression costs based on

ownership. **The State of Alaska is responsible for the suppression costs on all state, private and municipal lands.**

**The closest forces concept** is most effective in catching fires while they are small. In some areas of the state the closest forces are **local government and volunteer fire departments.** Local government and volunteer fire departments assist in responding to wildland fires when their higher priority of structure protection allows. Wildland firefighting and structure fire fighting are very different, requiring different training and equipment.



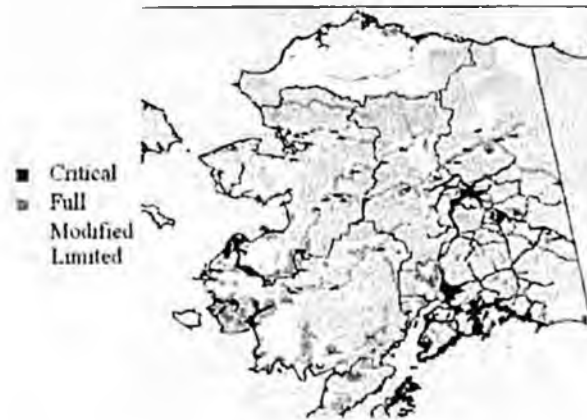
Forestry and A Volunteer Fire Department personnel responding to an incident

The response to wildland fires statewide is coordinated by the **Alaska Interagency Coordination Center** located in Fairbanks. This center is jointly staffed and managed by state and federal employees, and coordinates the mobilization of interagency personnel and resources to fires statewide. Duplication of separate facilities for state and federal suppression agencies is avoided, resulting in fast and efficient response to wildland fires.

The State of Alaska has adopted the **Alaska Interagency Fire Management Plan (Fire Plan)** as its basic guideline for managing wildland fire in Alaska. The fire plan was developed and signed in the 1980s to provide a coordinated and cost effective approach to fire management on all lands in Alaska.

Alaska is the only state having implemented one interagency fire plan that covers all land ownerships. Reliance on the fire plan greatly aids fire managers because decisions on which areas to protect and at what levels are already made. The fire plan categorizes all wildland fire-prone lands into **four different fire management options.**

Land Management Coordination  
Fire Plans



**Critical Management Option** – Created to give the highest priority for suppression action on wildland fires that threaten human life and inhabited property.

**Full Management Option** – Protects cultural and historical sites, uninhabited private property and high-value resource areas.

**Modified Management Option** – Lands in modified generally receive the same level of protection as those in the Full management option in the early fire season. Later in the fire season, fires in Modified are allowed to burn.

**Limited Management Option** – Limited management option lands are generally very remote, difficult to protect, have minimal resource value and as such receive no fire protection.

**FIRE TRAINING & QUALIFICATIONS**

In 1984 the State of Alaska adopted the **National Interagency Incident Management System Incident Command System** concept for managing its fire suppression program. The Incident Command System guiding principles are followed in all wildland fire management operations. **All state Departments adopted the Incident Command System in 1996 through the Governor's administrative order.** Personnel are trained in specific Incident Command System positions and meet national standards. This allows Forestry to call upon fire professionals from across the nation when needed, and makes Alaskan firefighters marketable to "lower 48" fires. A cost saving is directly realized by not having to train and staff to a "worst case" level for fire response.



Fire Shelter Training

The Division of Forestry has adopted the **National Wildfire Coordination Group Wildland Fire And Prescribed Fire Qualifications System Guide** (PMS 310-1) as the basis for its wildland fire qualifications system. Personnel must meet the appropriate training, experience, fitness, and qualifications (red card) requirements for all fire and aviation tasks assigned. Training is also provided to meet other mandated requirements such as Hazardous Materials, blood-borne pathogens, Commercial Drivers Licenses, etc.

Personnel management is the most difficult and rewarding aspect of fire management. Personnel must be trained to national standards for every Incident Command System job, must be prepared to react immediately to a variety of dangerous situations, ensure that procedures and policies are followed, and that the most cost-effective decisions are made. **Seasonal employees budgeted for 5 months a year fill many of the critical fire positions.** A top fire position may require up to 15 years of training and experience. Retention of such an individual is extremely important to a cost effective and safe fire program.

**A single decision can save the state millions of dollars,** and often it must be made immediately by a highly qualified seasonal firefighter during the initial attack phase of a wildland fire.

## PREPAREDNESS

*"In order to be ready when needed, you must also be ready when not needed."* Preparedness is one of the most important aspects of the Division's Fire & Aviation Program. Division of Forestry's fire managers are responsible for providing a safe, cost-effective fire management program through appropriate planning, staffing, training, and equipment levels. No one can predict exactly where or when fires will occur, but there will be wildland fires. Firefighters, equipment, facilities, and all the support elements it takes must be ready before a wildland fire starts. **Preparedness reduces the risk of escaped fires and saves the state money.**

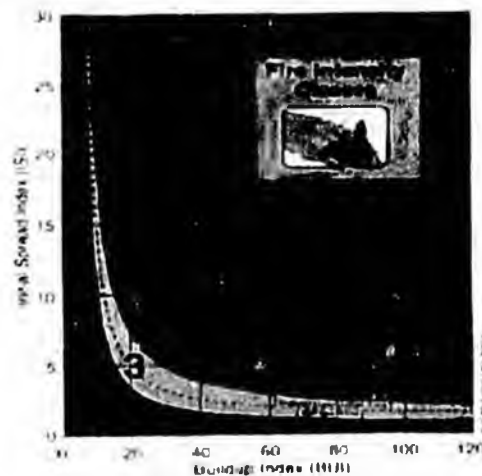
## DETECTION

The faster a fire is located, the quicker firefighters are on the scene. Bush pilots and commercial airlines report many fires, but a sophisticated **lightning detection system** identifies areas of concentrated lightning strikes where detection aircraft flights are then concentrated.

## WEATHER FORECASTING AND FIRE DANGER RATING SYSTEM



Remote Area Weather Station



Intensity Class for Boreal Spruce

A network of weather stations and a dependable forecasting service are essential for daily decision-making and long-range predictions. Weather information is the basis for a sophisticated computer generated fire danger rating system. The Division of Forestry utilizes the **Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System** to predict the potential fire danger based on the current and predicted weather. This scientifically developed and proven system provides a variety of data used to predict fire behavior, preposition resources, formulate fire strategy, and develop tactics to fight a fire. This tool has the potential to save the state millions of dollars by improving allocation of forces. This information is compiled and accessed through **the Internet** and can be accessed by the public on the Division of Forestry website at: <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry>

## **FEDERAL EXCESS PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Forestry takes advantage of the Federal Excess Personal Property program to acquire fire fighting aircraft, vehicles and equipment. Use is restricted to 90% firefighting activities, no title is passed to the state, all expenses in maintaining equipment rests with the state, but the state avoids the cost of purchase for similar equipment. This program saves the state millions of dollars.



A Federal Excess Personal Property 4x4 pick up truck was converted to a brush engine

## **FIRE SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS**

**A successful initial attack can save the state millions of dollars in suppression costs.** A trained, experienced, and well-equipped workforce is essential to locate and initial attack wildland fires while they are small. The cost of a **successful initial attack averages \$4 thousand dollars per fire** compared to costly "project" fires that can cost from \$3 million to \$30 million dollars to suppress. **One of the Division of Forestry's top priorities is the aggressive and effective initial attack** of wildland fires in the full and critical protection areas of the state.

Suppression activities for wildland fires are governed by the implementation of the Fire Plan that in most cases has predetermined the level of response to a given fire. **Sound and proven fire management principles stressing safe, cost-effective, and efficient response** to all wildland fires are followed by the Division of Forestry.

**Seasonal employees are the backbone of the fire suppression program.** They are an experienced and qualified work force, many of who have worked for Forestry 10-15 years. Their expertise provides the basis for the Division of Forestry's ability to expand from a few dozen employees to over a thousand within a day or two and be effectively fighting fires immediately.



Forestry personnel and engines

The Division has 143 seasonal fire positions funded in its current budget. Depending on the position, funding would provide an average of 5.4 months. These employees fill a variety of fire protection positions, including:

Initial Attack Firefighters	Airbase Manager
Engine Foreman	Airplane Pilot
Crewman - Engine / Helicopter	Air Attack Supervisor
Helicopter Foreman	Mechanic / Maintenance
Dispatcher	Procurement Specialist
Support Foreman	Warehouse Worker
Logistics Coordinator	Payroll Clerk
Field Office Assistant	Prevention Specialist

In addition to its permanent seasonal workforce, **the Division relies heavily on Emergency Firefighters.** Emergency firefighters are hired on an as-needed, short-term basis, and are utilized to augment the Division's workforce in all areas of the firefighting job. Individual Emergency Firefighters are hired to function as initial attack firefighters, warehouse workers, aviation ramp workers, etc. **The 16 person village Emergency Firefighter crews are hired when large numbers of organized and trained firefighters are required.**

There are a total of 73, 16-person Type 2 Emergency Firefighter Crews in Alaska. Predominantly from rural villages, these largely Native crews are trained to national ICS standards, used for wildland firefighting in Alaska, and are available to be dispatched to the lower 48. **The Division of Forestry manages 29 of these crews,** providing Incident Command System and wildland fire training, fitness testing, and red card issuance. An average of \$6.9 million in wages is paid annually to Alaska's Emergency Firefighters, benefiting the rural economy. Their employment spreads the fire dollar into economies that often predominantly rely upon subsistence. **The performance of Alaskan Emergency Firefighting crews is respected and valued in Alaska and in other states where they have fought fire.** Encouraging, maintaining, and supporting the existing Emergency Firefighter crews is a priority for a solid fire program in Alaska.

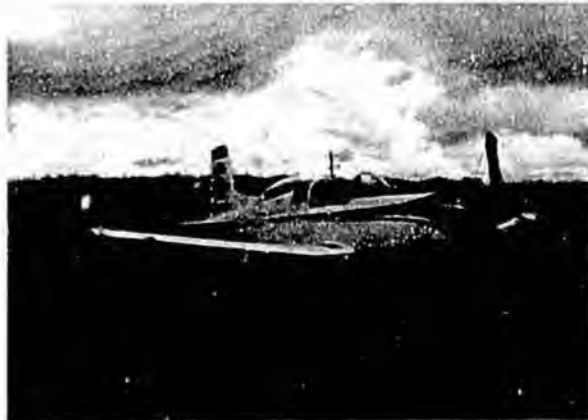


Emergency Firefighters

The ability to rapidly **expand a small' core organization** to fight fires is critical. Training of the core staff, combined with strong cooperative agreements, provides the phenomenal ability to expand rapidly with a safe, well functioning organization. Similarly, DOF also supplies personnel for federal fire emergencies. Without the ability to exchange resources, the Division of Forestry would be required to have a vastly larger and much more costly fire suppression organization.

### AVIATION RESOURCES

The Division of Forestry provides fire protection services on 150 million acres of land, and much of it is remote and inaccessible, requiring the use of airplanes and helicopters. **The Division contracts the majority of its aircraft resources from the private sector**, and manages and operates a combination of air tankers, helicopters, and miscellaneous fixed wing aircraft to deliver firefighters, mobilize emergency firefighters, move equipment and supplies, and drop fire retardant on fires. Close coordination between the state and federal agencies maximizes the use of aviation resources. Cooperative state and federal aviation management saves money.



PC-7 Air Attack



Forestry helitack crew

### PREVENTION

Approximately **85% of all wildland fires in Alaska are started by human carelessness**, making prevention one of the most important aspects of the Division's program. Prevention activities are accomplished by Division personnel across the state through school visits by Smokey Bear and other public education programs. Enforcement of the Alaska Statutes is also very important, and the Division issues citations and collects fire damages based on the circumstances of the escaped, human-caused fire. **An aggressive wildland fire prevention program can reduce the numbers of unwanted human-caused fires.**

The Division of Forestry is actively **promoting the FireWise concept in Alaska**. FireWise ([www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org)) is an educational program aimed at homeowners, land developers, zoning officials, and other groups with the goal of developing homes, subdivisions, and communities with the threat of wildland fire taken into consideration. The goal is to have homes, subdivisions, and communities built that will survive wildland fires in the future.



## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

Every fire requires not only having firefighters but a large inventory of equipment and supplies that are dispatched to fires all over the state, returned, repaired, refurbished, and restocked. This is accomplished through a **complex logistical support system** that includes procurement, property management, and fire warehousing. Adherence to national standards are required for interchangeable support with federal agencies. Fast, accurate response is provided by a dispatching system of highly qualified personnel, which must be in place and prepared.

The **state bills federal cooperators for fighting fires which start on their land**, and the federal government bills the state in a reciprocal manner. Historically, this has provided a net reimbursement to the State's general fund of over \$3 million annually. Recovering state costs depends entirely on accurate and complete management of contracts, payroll, procurement, bill paying, accounting, personnel regulations, statistics, property management, and audits by a **trained and experienced administrative staff**. The regular field employees must have a working knowledge fire business management principles and a staff of skilled experts must be in place to support billings of up to \$16 million per agency.

## **GOOD MANAGEMENT**

**Appropriate and effective management is critical** to successful and cost effective results in wildland firefighting. Firefighters must get to a fire with the tools they need to fight it within a minimal period of time. **Food, tents, vehicles, equipment, and medical supplies will be needed** and must be mobilized to the fire, then demobilized and refurbished to be ready for the next fire call.

**Alaska has 600-800 fires per year** and the Division of Forestry manages the majority of that workload. **Humans cause 83% of the wildland fires** in the Division of Forestry's protection area, most of which occur in more populated areas. Because of immediate threat to life, these are the most critical fires to stop with aggressive and successful initial attack. As urban areas continue to expand into the wildland, this workload continues to increase.

Lightning is the major cause of wildland fires across the Interior, producing as many as 3500 strikes per day. It is not uncommon to have 50 to 80 lightning fires burning in different locations at the same time.

<u>Protection Area</u>	<u>2002 Fires</u>	<u>Human-caused Fires</u>
Division of Forestry	74 %	80%
USDI Alaska Fire Service	20 %	23%
USDA Forest Service	6%	97%

Personnel and resources' (airplanes, helicopters, retardant, equipment, etc.) workload are directly impacted by the number of fires burning at the same time. As shortages of resources occur, **priorities must be set to allocate personnel and equipment to fight the most critical fire first.** Coordination occurs statewide by moving forces to the most critical areas as needed. Managing the workforce rapidly and efficiently results in more effective initial attack and suppressing wildland fires faster saving the state money by preventing larger fires.



View of wildland fires from helicopter



DC-6 Retardant aircraft

Alaska Statute 41.15.010 gives the responsibility for wildland fire suppression on state, private, and municipal lands to the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry. In some of the organized boroughs and municipalities, **landowners are taxed for fire services that are geared mainly for structure fire protection.** The wildland fire responsibility in the organized service areas is a shared responsibility between local government and the Division of Forestry. The Division provides critical wildland fire and Incident Command System training to the structure firefighters and in some instances, **loans fire equipment and Federal Excess Personal Property fire engines to the local government and volunteer fire departments.**

## INTENSITY OF FIRES

Weather, fuel conditions such as moisture content in vegetation, depth of vegetative mat, and a myriad of other factors, affect the fire intensity. **Fire can spread as much as eight miles in a single hour.** During the wind driven Miller's Reach Fire in 1996, firebrands were transported up to a mile in advance of the main fire, causing new ignitions. Intensity of a fire can create severe fire conditions that require special management to effectively utilize technology, personnel, and resources.



Miller Reach Fire 1996

## COMPLEXITY OF FIRES

Situations that affect fire complexity are unusual fire behavior, type of resources threatened (i.e., urban areas or villages), the number of fires in a particular area requiring suppression, evacuation of people, multiple agencies responding, etc.

**The Miller's Reach Fire is a good example of a complex fire.** Fire suppression involved 37 separate fire departments, over 1800 state and federal fire fighters, 103 agencies and organizations, local and national media, local and national political visits, and evacuation of more than 1500 people requiring emergency services such as temporary housing, food, and medical services. The more complex a fire, the more important a pre-planned management response is to success.



Millers Reach Fire 1996

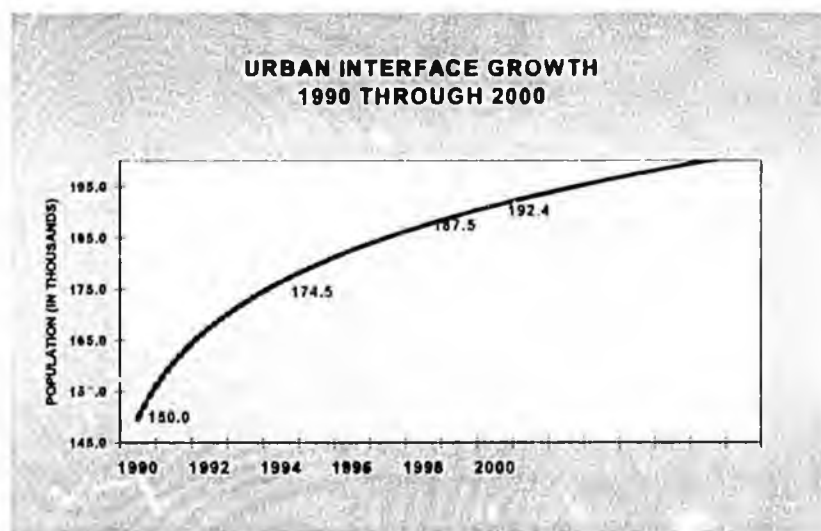
**Highly trained and skilled Interagency Incident Management Teams** are called in to handle the most complex wildland fires. These teams are made up of **state, federal, and local government experts trained and experience in the Incident Command System.** These teams have specific positions like Incident Commander, Plans Chief, Operations Chief, Logistics Chief, Finance Chief, etc. This is a "de facto" expansion of the workforce without a corresponding investment, as the base salaries are paid by the separate agencies.

The Division of Forestry is organized so **positions may be shifted between fire and resource programs depending on priorities and workload.** During a difficult fire season, all staff are available to support fire suppression; similarly, during slow or rainy periods fire staff may be working in the woods on forest resources projects. **The flexibility in program management** and cross training of employees is essential to meet the unpredictable fluctuations of the fire program.

**Total mobility of personnel and equipment** provides the basis for responding to simultaneous fires in different areas of the state. Minimum staffing for initial attack is maintained while relying on personnel from other Areas or agencies in the event of large fires. This also provides for the **most efficient utilization of forces** as Areas with lower fire danger can provide personnel for fires elsewhere.

### WHERE ARE WE GOING?

**The State of Alaska continues to grow,** and with that growth, more of the population is moving into the forested areas of the state where wildland fires occur. These areas are called the **wildland/urban interface** and as the numbers of homes increases in the interface, so does the risk of a wildland fire threatening human life and improved property. The **protection of life and property** in the wildland/urban interface is the most important job the Division of Forestry and its local government cooperators has. Because of the rise in both population and those participating in recreational activities, fire workloads are increasing while budgets have remained static, or in some cases, have declined.



The Miller's Reach Fire in 1996 and the Red Fox Fire near Tok in 2001 are reminders that **Alaska has a growing threat of wildland/urban interface fires.** The stakes are high, involving human life and major property values. The skills needed are different from strictly wildland fire needs, involving hazardous substances, structure protection, and evacuation needs. Forestry has a major role but clearly **the responsibility to fight these fires is shared with local government and volunteer fire departments.** Homeowners have a critical responsibility too. Homeowners need to take steps to make their properties FireWise ([www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org)) and to help the firefighters protect their homes. Planning, coordination, and training need to occur among all parties for a swift, coordinated response when fires start. **There will be more wildland/urban interface fires as Alaskans continue to settle outward from urban to less developed areas.**

It is clear that **the Division of Forestry has been successful** in adapting new technology, cost saving partnerships, effective management, and effecting tough decisions to meet these challenges. The fire plan, the Incident Command System, organizational flexibility, cooperative agreements and fiscal constraints provide savings to the state.

For More Information, Contact

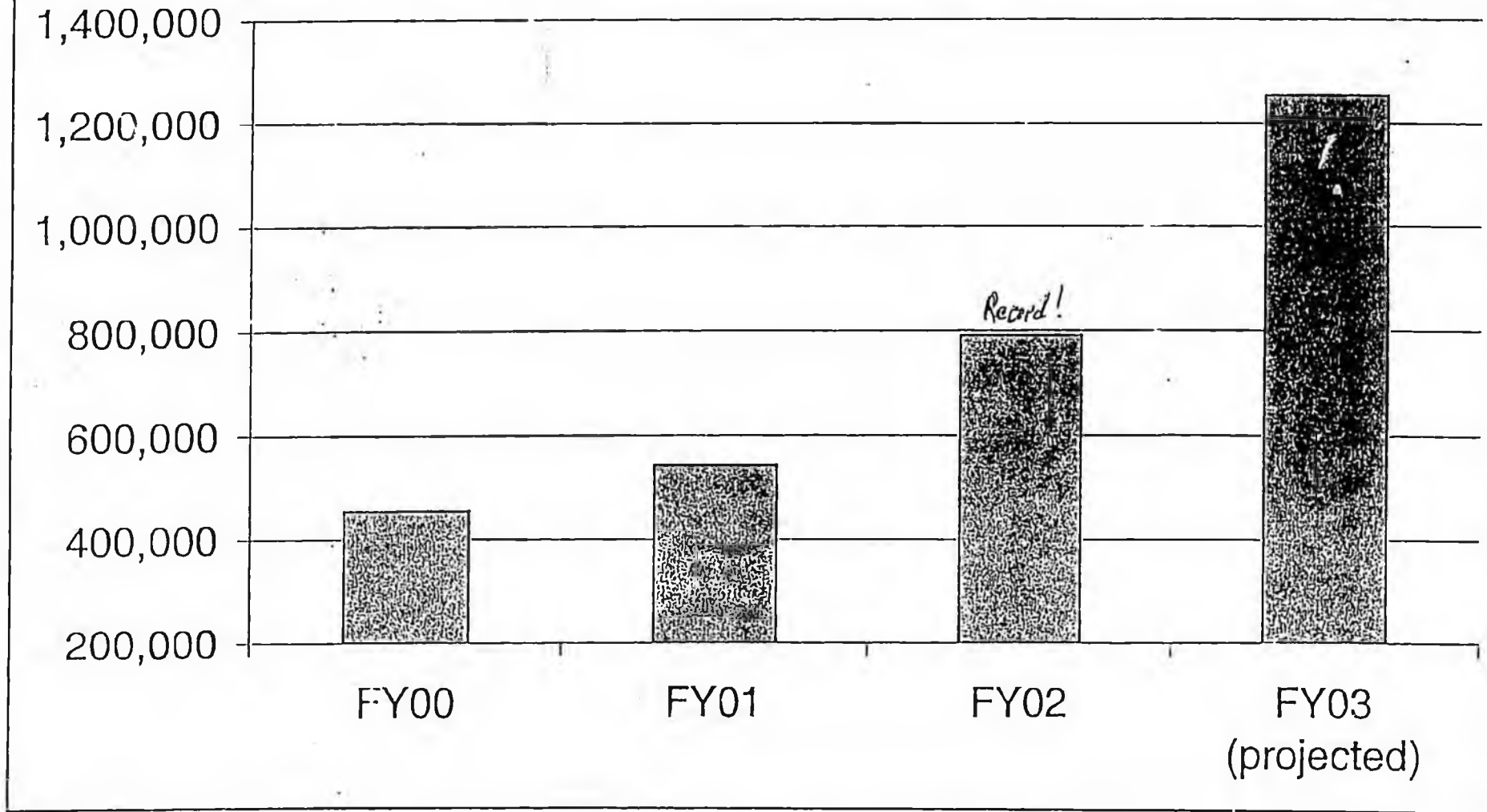
Directors Office  
Division of Forestry  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup>, Suite 1450  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907)-269-8476



Recorder's office

SB75  
SB76  
3/5/03

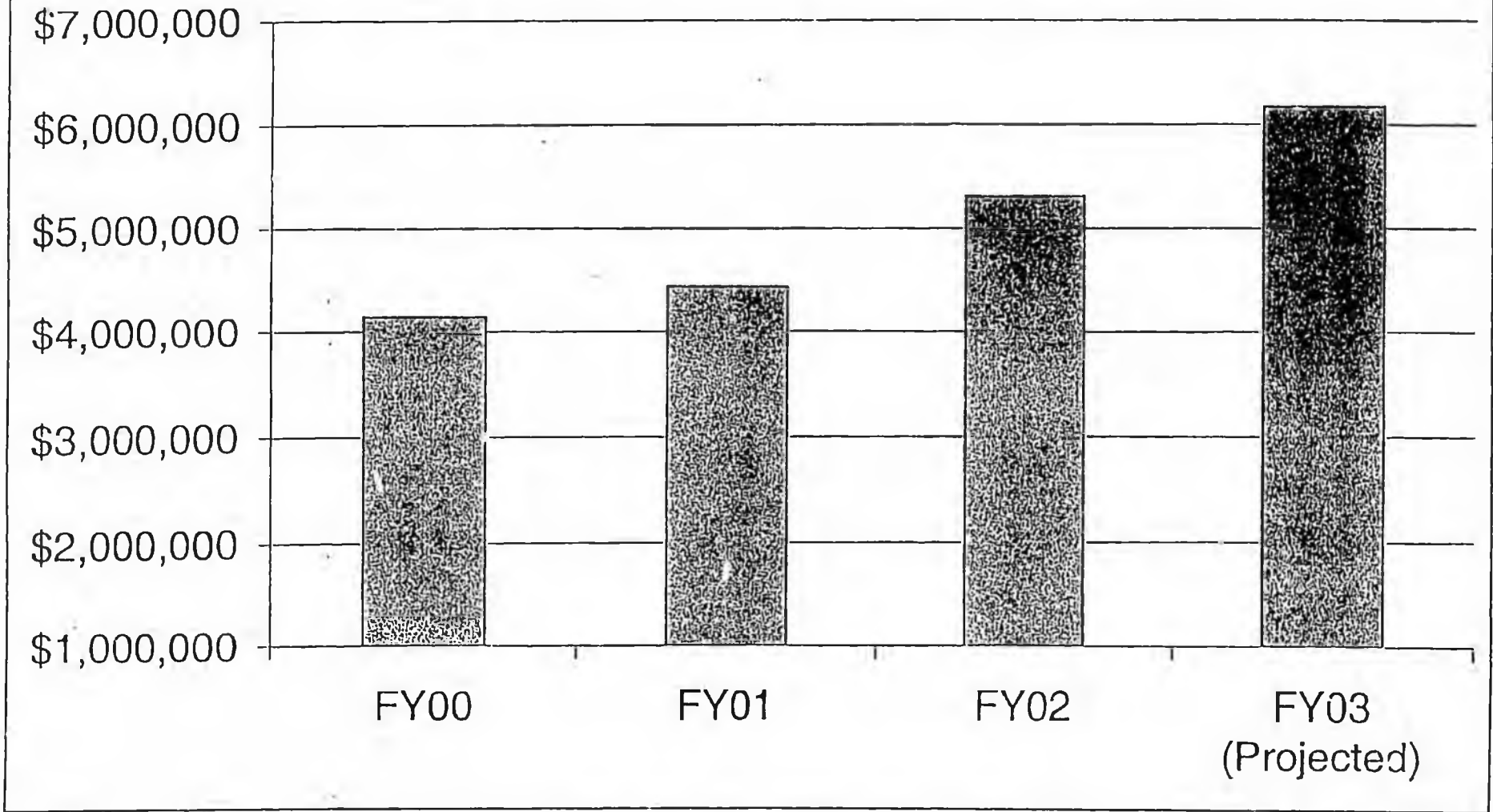
### Increase in Document Size (Image Count) FY00 - FY03



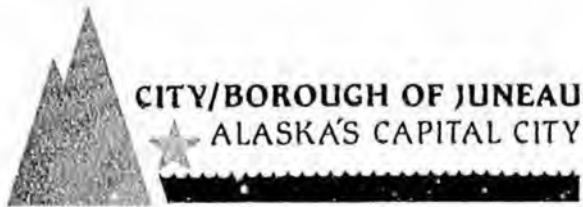
*Records office*

*3/29/02*  
*3/29/02*

### Increase in Revenue FY00 - FY03



*Provided by DNR*  
*11/10/02 3/5/02*



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Telephone: (907) 586-5240; Facsimile: (907) 586-5385  
[Sally\\_Smith@ci.juneau.ak.us](mailto:Sally_Smith@ci.juneau.ak.us)

March 4, 2003

The Honorable Lyda Green, Co-chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
State Capitol Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

The Honorable Gary Wilken, Co-chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
State Capitol Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Green and Senator Wilken:

This letter is to request your support of SB76 (Section 12c.), which would expeditiously pass through to the City and Borough of Juneau. grant funds provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the acquisition of 148 acres of land adjacent to Herbert River.

The property is a key inholding between Eagle Beach State Park and Amalga Meadows Park. In April 2002, the Juneau Assembly directed staff to apply for grants to help with the acquisition. Through the efforts of Southeast Alaska Land Trust and other supporting groups, a National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant was obtained in the amount of \$553,000 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. That grant has been directed to the State of Alaska to be passed through to the City and Borough of Juneau.

Juneau's Assembly is scheduled to accept the \$553,000 grant and appropriate matching funds at its meeting on Monday, March 10, 2003. We are eager to receive the grant funds from the state legislature so that we may complete the acquisition of this important inholding as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Please do not hesitate to call me at 586-5240 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Sally Smith  
Mayor

CC: Senator Kim Elton  
Representative Beth Kerttula  
Representative Bruce Weyhrauch



FRANK H. MURKOWSKI  
GOVERNOR  
GOVERNOR@GOV.STATE.AK.US

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STATE OF ALASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
JUNEAU

February 18, 2003

The Honorable Gene Therriault  
President of the Senate  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear President Therriault:

I am transmitting to you today two supplemental appropriation bills for Fiscal Year 2003. Issues requiring attention on an expedited basis are in a separate "fast track" bill. This bill includes supplemental needs with less immediate timing requirements.

Initial projections by the Legislature were that the Administration would be requesting a \$140 million general fund supplemental package. In contrast, we are submitting a combined package (both "fast track" and regular) that totals \$63.3 million in general funds. This is a result of our Administration's commitment to doing all we can to manage programs within the budget approved by the Legislature.

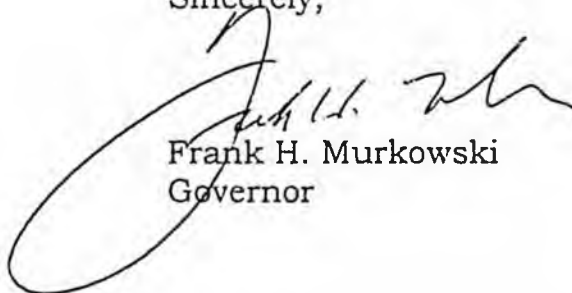
As you may recall, some of the supplemental requests are the result of legislative decisions made last session in which low case formula projections were reduced and some programs, such as the Office of Public Advocacy and Public Defender Agency were not funded for a full-year.

In some instances, we have been able to cover shortfalls in one area by excess appropriations in another. For instance, based on current estimates of general funds needed for the foundation formula, \$6.7 million can be transferred to cover other supplemental needs. The general fund capitalization of the debt retirement fund may also be reduced for two reasons: 1) the amount available for school debt reimbursement from the public school fund is higher than anticipated, and 2) the actual amount of school debt reimbursement is lower than anticipated.

Senate President Gene Therriault  
February 18, 2003  
Page 2

The Administration's goal is to limit future supplemental requests to circumstances that were unanticipated and not within management's control. To that end, we look forward to working with you on the funding levels for the Fiscal Year 2004 operating budget.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank H. Murkowski", is written over the typed name and title. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Frank H. Murkowski  
Governor

**SITE: ANCHORAGE LIO**

**COMMITTEE: SFIN**

**DATE: 2-25-03**

**SUBJECT OF MEETING:**

**SB 75/SB 76**

**UPDATE #:**



**P R I N T YOUR NAME**

**ADDRESS (MAILING & ZIP)**

**REPRESENTING**

**DO YOU WANT  
TO TESTIFY?  
Y or N**

<b>Barbara Brink</b>		AK Public Defender	<b>Y-SB 76</b>
Email address:			
<b>Brant McGee</b>		AK Public Advocate	<b>Y-SB 76</b>
Email address:			
<b>Dan Seamount</b>		AOGCC	<b>Ans ?</b>
Email address:			<b>SB 76</b>
<b>Capt. Howard Starbard</b>		DPS/FWP Div.	<b>Ans ?s</b>
Email address:			<b>SB 76</b>
Email address:			
Email address:			
Email address:			

