BRIEFING PAPER

Title: Alaska Fuel Breaks- Strategic Projects Division of Forestry (DOF)



Date: November 26, 2019

Contact: Chris Maisch, State Forester/Division Director

Email: Chris.Maisch@alaska.gov

Strategic Fuel Break Plan: The Alaska Division of Forestry has approximately 40 fuels projects ready to implement. The mission ready projects on record will cost an estimated \$11.5 million over five to seven years. An additional estimated \$8 million of projects are in the conceptual planning process and in various stages of development. Conceptual phase projects will require public process, interagency coordination, design and layout. The 40 attached ready to implement projects are geographically broken out by DOF Area Office for project management.

Kenai/Kodiak Area

Project Name	Description	Costs	Area
Kenai-Nikiski	Linear fuel break construction adjacent to USFWS lands 200 acres	\$500,000	Northern Kenai
Soldotna-Kasilof	Defensible space assessments on residential structures and egress routes, along with liner fuel break construction 200 acres	\$500,000	Central Kenai
Clam Gulch-Ninilchik	Defensible space assessments on residential structures and egress routes, along with liner fuel break construction 200 acres	\$500,000	South Central Kenai
Anchor Point-Homer	Defensible space assessments on residential structures and egress routes, along with liner fuel break construction 200 acres	\$500,000	Southern Kenai
CY2020 Stewardship WUI Homeowner	Homeowner defensible space beetle kill tree removal (100 acres or 80 homes)	190,000	Kenai Peninsula Borough
	Total Acres Treated = 900	COST=\$2.19MM	

Mat-Su/Southwest Area

Project Name	Description	Costs	Area
Caswell - Phase 2	Continue shaded fuel break along Hidden Hills Road. Protects access/egress to the Hidden Hills subdivision.	\$300,000	Mat-Su
Zero Lake	7-mile fuel break to protect the communities of Meadow Lakes and Houston from continuous fire-prone fuels.	\$500,000	Mat-Su
Knick River Public use area	Public use trails ranging from Maud Road to the Knik/ Jim Creek area. Hazard fuel reduction along high use trails and known camping sites	\$200,000	Mat-Su
Glacier View	Matanuska Glacier State Recreation Site, hazard fuels reduction (spruce beetle). Protects Glacier View School and community.	\$200,000	Mat-Su

Edgerton – Parks & Government Peak Rec Area	Proposed hazard fuel treatment of eight miles of trails in the Government Peak Recreation Area. This high use area that has been recently impacted by spruce beetle.	\$300,000	Mat-Su
MSB Fuels (Maintenance)	Includes maintenance for shaded fuel breaks around eight schools, four campgrounds / public use areas.	\$100,000	Mat-Su
MTNT Phase 2	Continue fuels reduction work around McGrath, Takotna, Nikolai, Tolida.	\$300,000	Southwest
Lynx Lake	Hazardous fuels reduction & spruce beetle kill mitigation creating a 4-mile fuels break.	\$300,000	Mat-Su
Horseshoe lake (Maintenance)	Maintenance for shaded fuel break protecting the access/egress to the Horseshoe Lake Firewise community.	\$150,000	Mat-Su
Chugach State Parks (Maintenance)	Maintenance of previously completed shaded fuel breaks in Eklutna, McHugh, Glenn Alps, & Indian State Park areas. These projects will need to be rescoped to include recent spruce beetle damage.	\$300,000	Mat-Su
Byers Lake Campground and Public Use cabins (Phase 2)	Continue work started in 2019 to reduce hazardous fuel load and improve user safety due to spruce beetle-killed trees in campground and around public use cabins.	\$200,000	Mat-Su
Nancy Lake Public Use cabins (14 cabins)	Expand work started in 2019 to reduce hazardous fuel load and improve user safety due to spruce beetle-killed trees around public use cabins.	\$50,000	Mat-Su
Kesugi-Ken Campground and Public Use Cabins	Hazardous fuels reduction, spruce beetle kill mitigation, and user safety improvements.	\$300,000	Mat-Su
Mat-Su area campground and public use areas	Hazardous fuels reduction, spruce beetle kill mitigation, and user safety improvements for Mat-Su area campgrounds, public use areas and public use cabins including: Big Lake CG (North and South), Willow Creek CG, Little Susitna PUF and remote sites, Susitna Landing, Bonnie Lake SRS.	\$300,000	Mat-Su
Southwest Alaska Fuels Mitigation	Create fuels breaks around village dumps and landfills in western Alaska. Dump fires are a common and avoidable fire cause. Use village crews in communities where available.	\$500,000	Southwest
CY2020 Stewardship WUI Homeowner	Homeowner defensible space beetle kill tree removal (100 acres or 80 homes)	\$190,000	Mat-Su Borough

CY2021	Homeowner defensible space beetle kill tree	\$190,000	Mat-Su
Stewardship WUI	removal (100 acres or 80 homes)		Borough
Homeowner			
CY2022	Homeowner defensible space beetle kill tree	\$190,000	Mat-Su
Stewardship WUI	removal (100 acres or 80 homes)		Borough
Homeowner			
	Total Acres Treated= 2,012	COST=\$4.6MM	••

Fairbanks/Delta Area

Project Name	Description	Costs	Area
Delta River West	Located west side of the Delta River. Will	\$590,000	Delta
(DRW)	result in a 13-mile, 750-acre fuels break from		
Phase 1	Donnelley Training Area protecting the		1
	community of Whitestone.	<u></u>	
(DRW) Phase 2	Fuels break between the community of	\$820,000	Delta
	Whitestone and the Little Delta river	 	
	protecting South Back, Richardson Clearwater		
	and Whitestone.		
(DRW) Phase 3	60 Acre shaded fuel break on southside of	\$360,000	Delta
	Richardson Clearwater and South Banks.		
Nordale Road	10-acre shaded fuel break on Fairbanks	\$60,000	Fairbanks
	Northstar Borough lands separating private	l	
	homes from hazard fuels,	<u></u>	
Pandora Subdivision	25-acre shaded fuel break. Unit is on	\$150,000	Fairbanks
	Fairbanks Northstar borough lands.		
Healy Spur Fuel	1-mile fuel break using heavy equipment with	\$17,500	Fairbanks
Break	masticating head. Design is to protect the		
	community of Healy. Treatment unit is Denali		
	Borough managed lands.		_
Quartz Lake	30-acre shaded fuel break located adjacent to	\$180,000	Delta
	private residential property on Quartz Lake.		
Old Murphy Dome	This project is designed to maintain the 300-	\$340,000	Fairbanks
(Maintenance)	foot-wide fuel break in an area with numerous		
	landowners, utility rights-of-way, and		
	recreational trails. This 603-acre fuel break		
	provides a significant barrier to community of		
	Fairbanks.		
Little Chena Fuel	Project proposes to maintain existing fuel	\$230,000	Fairbanks
Break	breaks on the little Chena located off Chena		
(Maintenance)	Hot Springs Road. Maintenance will consist of	Į.	
	treatment units with a roller chopper, or by		
	other mechanical methods and burn		
	remaining piles.		

	in Northwestern Fairbanks. Retreat existing units with a roller chopper, or by other mechanical methods, and burn remaining piles Total Acres Treated= 2,603	COST \$2.8 MM	
(Maintenance)			
Goldstream Valley	Project proposes to maintain 350 acres of	\$70,000	Fairbanks

Tok/Copper River Area

Project Name	Description	Costs	Area
Tok Southside Fuel Break	300-foot, 43 acre shaded fuels break to protect Tok School and seven primary residences.	\$215,000	Tok
Tok Firewise	Provide firewise assistance to residences in the communities of Tok, Northway, Mentasta, Tetlin, Tanacross, Dry Creek, Dot Lake and Chicken.	\$976,000	Tok
Glennallen Fuel Break	Extension of existing 200-foot-wide, 360-acre shear bladed and shaded fuel break around the community of Glennallen.	\$500,000	Copper River
Glennallen Fuel Break (Maintenance)	Complete maintenance on existing 200-footwide break in Glennallen.	\$300,000	
	Total Acres Treated= 650	COST \$1.9 MM	