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Natural Resources

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Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: February 6, 2020

## **Wildland fire prevention workshops scheduled in Haines, Skagway**

**(Haines, AK)** – In response to severe fire weather conditions in the Upper Lynn Canal last summer, the Alaska Division of Forestry and the U.S. Forest Service are hosting wildland fire prevention workshops in Haines and Skagway to help private and municipal property owners prepare for the 2020 fire season.

The workshop in Haines is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 20 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Aspen Suites Hotel. The Skagway workshop is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 21 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Public Safety Building.

Staff from the Division of Forestry and U.S. Forest Service will share information to help residents be better prepared before wildland fire threatens their property. They will share information about national and state programs aimed at teaching landscaping strategies that can help limit the spread of wildland fire near forest-surrounded homes or communities, and will answer general questions about wildland fire prevention and protection.

Although wildland fires have not been a significant threat to communities in the Upper Lynn Canal, they are possible if last summer's extended dry, hot, and windy conditions occur again this year.

Homes in the area are frequently located in steep terrain and are typically close to other homes, both factors that support the rapid spread of wildland fire through the forest and communities. Prevention is the best way to protect valued property during a wildland fire incident.

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