State Board of Forestry to hold meeting April 3

(Anchorage, AK) - The public is invited to participate in a Board of Forestry teleconference on Wednesday, April 3, to discuss statewide forestry issues. The meeting will run from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

The nine-member Board of Forestry advises the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources on forestry regulations, provides a forum for those interested in forestry to discuss and seek resolution to issues concerning Alaska’s forest resources, and makes recommendations to the governor and Legislature on research needs.

Topics on the Board’s agenda for the April 3 meeting include:

- Annual resource agency and Board of Forestry reports on the effectiveness of the Forest Resources and Practices Act
- Results of 2018’s compliance monitoring and road condition survey
- Forestry and forest practices budgets for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2019
- Proposed state regulations and bail schedule for new wildland fire prevention statutes
- Coastal forest management issues including reports on Tongass Roadless Rule litigation, the Mental Health Trust land exchange, timber sales under the state-federal Good Neighbor Agreement, and salvage harvest potential of beetle-killed spruce in the Matanuska Susitna Borough
- Statewide forest management issues including reports on Division of Forestry timber sales and Forest Resources and Practices Act implementation
- Presentations on blowdown prediction/reduction modeling and a trails/outdoor recreation initiative

Other forestry matters may be included on the agenda. The meeting is intended to comply with the requirements of AS 41.17.047(b) and (d). Public comment is scheduled for 10 a.m.

(MORE)
The Board meeting will be accessible via teleconference and webinar. Teleconference call-in locations will be available in the following communities:

- Anchorage: DNR 550 W. Seventh Ave., Suite 1450
- Fairbanks: 3700 Airport Way, DNR large conference room
- Ketchikan: Legislative Information Office, 1900 First Ave, Suite 310

Those outside of Anchorage, Fairbanks, Ketchikan or Juneau seeking to participate in the teleconference should contact Alison Arians at the Division of Forestry in Anchorage at alison.arians@alaska.gov or at 907-269-8467 no later than noon on Monday, April 1. If no one has contacted her and no one is present at a teleconference site by 9 a.m., the teleconference at that site may be terminated.

For a copy of the agenda, go to http://forestry.alaska.gov/whatsnew.htm. Contact Arians for additional information, for special accommodations due to audio or visual impairment, or to get on the mailing list for announcements of future Board of Forestry meetings.

CONTACT: Alison Arians, 907-269-8467, alison.arians@alaska.gov

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