



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 24, 2018

Board of Forestry to meet November 14

(Anchorage, AK) - The public is invited to participate in a Board of Forestry teleconference on Wednesday, Nov. 14 to discuss statewide forestry issues. The meeting will run from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. A draft agenda is posted at <http://forestry.alaska.gov/whatsnew.htm>.

Topics for the board meeting include:

- Fiscal year 2018-19 forestry and forest practices budgets;
- Proposed state regulations and bail schedule for new Wildland Fire Prevention statutes;
- Forest health issues including results of spruce beetle surveys and a report on an all-lands spruce beetle strategy for south-central Alaska;
- Fish habitat ballot initiative (17FSH2) and possible impacts on the Forest Resources and Practices Act;
- 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, log transfer facility management, and University of Alaska timber management in the Haines area.
- Statewide forest management issues including reports on Division of Forestry timber sales and Forest Resources and Practices Act implementation, a Chugach National Forest Good Neighbor Agreement project, and consolidated state comments on the draft Chugach National Forest Plan.
- Reports on non-timber forest values, including carbon projects, wood energy, 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 11:50 a.m.

The Board of Forestry meeting will be held by teleconference and webinar. Teleconference call-in locations will be available in the communities listed below:

- Juneau: DNR 4th floor conference room A, 400 Willoughby Avenue
- Anchorage: Suite 1450, 550 W. 7th Avenue
- Fairbanks: Department of Natural Resources large conference room, 3700 Airport Way
- Ketchikan: Legislative Information Office, 1900 First Ave, Suite 310

Anyone outside of Anchorage, Fairbanks, Ketchikan or Juneau who would like to participate in the teleconference should contact Alison Arians at the Division of Forestry in Anchorage at alison.arians@alaska.gov or call 907-269-8467 no later than noon on Monday, Nov. 12. If no one has contacted Alison and no one is present at a teleconference site by 9 a.m., the teleconference may be terminated at that site.

For a copy of the agenda, go to <http://forestry.alaska.gov/whatsnew.htm> or contact Alison Arians at alison.arians@alaska.gov or 907-269-8467. For additional information about the meeting, or for special accommodations due to audio or visual impairment, contact Alison using the contact information above. Any individuals wishing to receive announcements of future Board of Forestry meetings by e-mail or in hard copy should contact Alison to be added to the mailing list.

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

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