



Alaska Department of
**NATURAL
RESOURCES**

June 2023

**DIVISION OF FORESTRY
& FIRE PROTECTION**

Fact Sheet:

Alaska Board of Forestry

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Background and organization. The Board of Forestry is established under the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act (FRPA). The Board is designed to represent diverse interests, with representatives from commercial fishing, environmental, mining, and recreation organizations; an Alaska Native corporation, and a forest industry trade association, along with a non-governmental professional forester and a professional fish/wildlife biologist. The Board is chaired by the Alaska State Forester who is a non-voting member. The DNR Division of Forestry & Fire Protection serves as staff to the Board, and the DEC Division of Water and ADF&G Division of Habitat provide technical staffing and information as needed.

Board rules aim for a high degree of consensus – a Board action requires an affirmative vote by all but one of the voting members present. A quorum requires that all members less one be present.

The Board meets twice per year: one meeting held virtually and one in-person meeting that alternates among Southeast, Southcentral, and Interior Alaska. Board meetings are open to the public, publicly noticed, and a public comment period is scheduled. Meeting minutes are posted on the DOF website.

Purpose. The Board

- Provides input to DNR Commissioner on regulations related to forest practices
- Provides a forum for representatives of affected interests to discuss and attempt to resolve forest practices issues and issues “relevant to the forest resources of the state”
- Surveys research needs related to forest practices, review research proposals, and promote projects to address research needs
- Coordinates and reports on forest practices compliance and effectiveness monitoring
- Reviews annual reports from DOF, DEC, and ADF&G on FRPA effectiveness, needed changes, and research and monitoring needs; synthesizes this info and reports to the Governor on these issues and FRPA status
- Identifies candidates for state forester and submits them to the DNR Commissioner

Recent issues. Major issues addressed by the Board at recent meetings include:

- Forest practices compliance monitoring, effectiveness monitoring, and road condition surveys
- Coastal forest management, including cooperative federal-state efforts for young-growth inventory, Good Neighbor Authority timber sales, and workforce development
- Supporting Southeast Alaska timber industry
- Recreation and Forestry partnerships
- Legislation supporting the timber industry and decreasing wildland fire danger

For more information on the Board, or to be added to the mailing list for notification of Board meetings, contact Trever Fulton (trever.fulton@alaska.gov or 907-269-8476).