

Attachment 8 Haines Area Fire Management Roles and Responsibilities

The Haines Jurisdictional Area encompasses the Haines Borough, City of Skagway, Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve, and Haines State Forest. The protection area includes other landowners including National Park Service, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs and ANCSA Village and Regional Corporations.

In March 2017, the protection responsibility for the Haines Area was transferred from the State of Alaska to the US Forest Service (USFS), Tongass National Forest and was documented in the *Alaska Statewide Operating Plan* through the boundary change process.

Protection and jurisdictional responsibilities are outlined within the *2020 Alaska Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement* and the *Alaska Interagency Wildland Fire Management Plan*. Additional details regarding responsibilities are included below.

US Forest Service:

- Develop/maintain cooperative agreements with local volunteer fire departments (VFDs) for mutual aid support as well as local incident requests.
- Provide safety refresher training (RT-130) for VFDs and address other training opportunities when possible.
- Access cache supplies and/or equipment as needed. Keep an inventory of used items and coordinate with State Cache Support to resupply, using incident S-numbers when appropriate.
- Communicate with local, regional, and national news organizations to provide information on fire activity, fire season severity, and other fire related topics.
- Coordinate press releases with VFDs and/or the State when appropriate to provide a consistent message to the public.
- Provide prevention signs for USFS lands. Ensure signs can be maintained/updated in a timely manner.

State of Alaska, Division of Forestry & Fire Protection:

- Provide certification (red cards) for State, local and volunteer fire department members as needed.
- To the extent possible, hire EFF firefighters for preposition or extended attack when requested by the Incident Commander or Forest Service fire management.
- Provide fitness testing as needed to maintain basic firefighter certification for State, local and VFDs.
- Manage training database (IQS) with cooperator/VFD training history.
- Collaborate with local VFDs for assistance grant opportunities.
- Maintain Haines cache facility including maintenance/upkeep, utilities, landscaping, inventory, resupply, etc.

ALASKA MASTER COOPERATIVE WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT AND STAFFORD ACT RESPONSE AGREEMENT
2026 ALASKA STATEWIDE OPERATING PLAN

- Provide annual refurbish/repair for motorized equipment in cache to ensure pumps, chainsaws, etc. are in good working order.
- Coordinate with the USFS and VFDs when possible, to disseminate fire related information.
- Provide prevention signs for State lands. Coordinate with VFDs to address local needs.

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