

State of Alaska FY2004 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Natural Resources Emergency Firefighters Non-Emergency Projects Component Budget Summary

Component: Emergency Firefighters Non-Emergency Projects

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Component Mission

Hire emergency firefighters (EFF) for fire management and hazard fuels reduction work, fire prevention, habitat restoration or improvement and other related activities in non-emergency circumstances under AS 41.15.030.

Component Services Provided

This component enables the Division to hire trained and experienced village EFF crews and individual EFF for use by state, municipal and federal land management agencies on pre-planned, non-emergency prescribed fire, hazard fuel reduction and other non-fire suppression projects. Cooperating land management agencies have identified numerous prescribed burning projects across the state. These planned projects have identified approximately 250 crew workdays that will require the use of trained fire fighting crews. Prescribed fire projects require the use of highly trained and organized crews to conduct the burns in a safe and effective manner. Agencies utilizing the village EFF crews and individual EFF will provide the funding to pay for the costs associated with their use. These projects have the potential to reduce wildland fire threat to villages and communities in Alaska through the reduction of hazardous fuels and will improve wildlife habitat.

Component Goals and Strategies

The goal of this component is to utilize trained EFF village crews and individual EFF on non-emergency prescribed fire and hazard fuels reduction projects to meet the resource management objectives of various state, municipal and federal land management agencies in Alaska.

The strategy is to market trained and experienced EFF crews and individual EFF for hire for various projects to cooperating state, municipal and federal agencies. The strategy includes providing services that make hiring EFF crews more desirable than other alternatives for short-term employment. The strategy is to keep EFF crews working together as a team so they will gain additional experience and be ready to fight wildland fires.

Key Component Issues for FY2003 – 2004

None

Major Component Accomplishments in 2002

During FY02, progress on two major projects were accomplished utilizing EFF crews:

- Anchorage Hillside Hazard Fuel Reduction: The Mat-Su Type 2 EFF Crew was employed for sixteen weeks to accomplish hazard tree removal, fire break improvement and other hazard fuel work to reduce the potential of a serious wildland fire on the Hillside area in the Municipality of Anchorage. Federal funds were received from the US Forest Service to perform the mitigation work in Anchorage as part of the National Fire Plan project.
- Kenai Peninsula Borough Hazard Fuel Reduction: The Kenai Type 2 EFF crew worked for twenty-one weeks to reduce hazardous fuel adjacent to public facilities to reduce the potential for serious wildland fires. The crew worked around the community of Moose Pass, in state parks, schools in the Anchor Point and Homer area, and in the Coho Loop area. A National Fire Plan grant and KPB Federal Spruce Bark Beetle funding was used to accomplish the hazard fuels reduction projects.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

Alaska Statute 41.15.030

**Emergency Firefighters Non-Emergency Projects
Component Financial Summary**

All dollars in thousands

	FY2002 Actuals	FY2003 Authorized	FY2004 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	259.2	175.0	250.0
72000 Travel	0.0	2.0	0.0
73000 Contractual	0.0	53.0	0.0
74000 Supplies	0.0	20.0	0.0
75000 Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	259.2	250.0	250.0
Funding Sources:			
1061 Capital Improvement Project Receipts	259.2	250.0	250.0
Funding Totals	259.2	250.0	250.0

Emergency Firefighters Non-Emergency Projects
Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2004

No proposed changes assuming a continuation level budget.

Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2003 Authorized to FY2004 Governor

All dollars in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2003 Authorized	0.0	0.0	250.0	250.0
FY2004 Governor	0.0	0.0	250.0	250.0