

**Department of Natural Resources
FY25 Midyear Status Report**

Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
1	Administration & Support Services / Office of Project Management & Permitting	Increase Funding in Accordance with Carbon Offset Program (SB48 (Ch. 2, SLA 2023)) FY2025 Fiscal Note Projection	\$116.0 Gen Fund (UGF) 1 PFT Position Inc	Has this position been filled, and if so, when? Is the State Lands Survey complete, and if not, when is completion expected?
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>There was a bit of delay in recruitment due to setting up the new job class in the system. Recruitment closed on 11/26/24 and interviews are being conducted.</p> <p>The state lands survey has been encumbered and is anticipated to be spend by the end of FY2025 on feasibility studies and initial development work on forest carbon projects on state forestlands in one or more areas in the Tanana Valley, Haines, Mat-Su Valley, and Kenai Peninsula.</p>				
2	Oil & Gas / Oil & Gas	Add General Fund Program Receipt Authority and Replace UGF	Total: \$385.0 (\$500.0) Gen Fund (UGF) \$885.0 GF/Prgm (DGF) Inc	Does the agency expect to fully utilize the additional program receipt authority? Please detail how the increased program receipt authority will be expended.
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>The Division of Oil and Gas expects to fully utilize the additional program receipt authority. The increased general fund program receipt authority allows the division to meet increased .850 easement inspection workloads. This includes travel to the North Slope to conduct more inspections, funding for existing DOG employees to complete the work, and utilization of enhanced GIS data management systems from items that were purchased with this funding in the first half of FY2025 (drones, thermistors, etc.).</p>				
3	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Mining, Land & Water	Advancing State's Rights in Navigability and Revised Statute 2477	\$741.0 GF/Prgm (DGF) Inc	Please provide information on scope and monetary amounts for any third party contracts. Does the agency anticipate this program continuing indefinitely?

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<p>Agency Response</p> <p>A \$10,000 contract with Dr. Joseph Livengood is in effect from 10/01/24-09/30/25 with 5 one-year renewal options. The purpose of this contract is to provide emergency medical consulting services to staff while in the field.</p> <p>The Division of Mining, Land & Water anticipates this program continuing indefinitely.</p>				
4	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Mining, Land & Water	Add GF Program Receipts for Reclassification and Addition of Range Flexibility for Natural Resource Specialist Positions	\$400.0 GF/Prgm (DGF) Inc	Has retention improved as a result of this change? Are any of these positions currently vacant, and if so, is the agency actively recruiting or planning to recruit for them?
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>Yes, retention has improved. The division's vacancy rate has gone from 11.3% to 9.4%. Only one position which was reclassified is currently vacant, and it is being actively recruited for.</p>				
5	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Forest Management & Development	Add UGF to Allow Existing Timber Sale Receipts to Fund Expanded Forestry Road Infrastructure Projects	\$900.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Inc	Please provide a status update on the funding for each maintenance/construction project.

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<p>Agency Response</p> <p>July 2024: Graded and ditched 27 miles on Standard Creek Road and 12 miles on Two Rivers roads in the Tanana Valley State Forest; scarified 27 acres of timber sales off the Hipas road for reforestation</p> <p>August 2024: Graded, ditched and brushed 6.7 miles of the Willer-Kash road and 6.6 miles of the Zero lake road in the Matanuska Susitna area; scarified 10 acres of old timber sales to meet reforestation requirements</p> <p>September 2024: Developed a material site on Cache Creek road in the Tanana Valley State Forest; stockpiled 1000 cubic yards for extension of the Cache Creek road to the Standard Creek East road</p> <p>October 2024: Following the ice storm in the Fairbanks Area, opened up Cache Creek, Standard Creek, Two Rivers and Bonanza Creek roads; this project included plowing, brushing and tree falling to regain access to firewood cutting and commercial timber sales</p> <p>November and December 2024: Maintain access by plowing main haul roads in the Tanana Valley State Forest as needed</p>				
6	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Geological & Geophysical Surveys	Conduct Research on Geothermal Energy Potential in Alaska (FY25-FY27)	\$1,000.0 Gen Fund (UGF) 2 PFT Positions IncT	<p>Have these position been filled, and if so, when?</p> <p>Please provide information on scope and monetary amounts for any third party contracts.</p> <p>Does the agency have the ability to complete this research by FY27?</p>
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>These positions have been created in the system and will be filled soon. The division determined that it is important to fill the geothermal manager position first, which is going through an extensive national recruitment effort. The division anticipates filling the geothermal manager position by end of January.</p> <p>Helicopter and fuel contracts to support fieldwork, ground and airborne geophysical data acquisition and processing, and laboratory analytical studies of field samples are just a few of anticipated contracts. These vary from \$500,000 to \$650,000.</p> <p>The division anticipates making substantial progress by FY2027. The division is also working to attract new exploration interest in Alaska via participation in the flagship national geothermal meeting and notable improvements to our geothermal web application that provides access to available data.</p>				

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7	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Fire Suppression Preparedness	New Leases for Northern Region Warehouse and Southcentral Crew Facility	\$1,500.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Inc	Have locations been identified and any leases secured? If so, please provide the final cost of the new leases.
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>Fire Warehouse Lease (Fairbanks) Request for Proposal (RFP) development with Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Division of Facilities Services Leasing Office (ADOT&PF) began in June 2024 with the intent to award on Jan 27, 2025. This is a limited competition solicitation sent to four contractors that responded to a Request for Information from ADOT&PF on behalf of the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection on Feb 27, 2024, to determine level of interest prior to issuing the RFP.</p> <p>Mat-Su Crew Facilities Lease (Palmer) Request for Proposal (RFP) development with the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Division of Facilities Services Leasing Office began in March 2024. An RFP for limited competition was issued to two proposers on April 9, 2024. One proposer responded and was declared non-responsive. ADOT subsequently canceled the RFP on June 3, 2024 in accordance with policy & procedures. ADOT&PF then sought and received authorization to engage in sole-source negotiations with the responder and proceeded in July 2024. The contractor is currently working on costs for a new facility in advance of negotiation meetings anticipated in January 2025.</p>				
8	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Various	Incentive Pay for Wildland Firefighters	\$1,200.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Inc	Has recruitment and retention improved as a result of this LOA? What is the projected FY25 total costs, and how much additional expenditures have been incurred to date?
<p>Agency Response</p> <p>The significant increase to the number of applicants on the Wildland Fire and Resource Technician (WFRT) classification is a direct reflection of the positive impacts related to the Mission Critical Incentive Pay letter of agreement. Applicant pools have increased from having to extend recruitments due to no applicant interest to now having anywhere from 30-80 applicants. The division is continuing recruitment efforts and expects to fill the majority of the WFRT PCNs by the beginning of the fire season (April 1, 2025). Due to this being a relatively new development, the projected costs are not easily identified.</p>				

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9	Parks & Outdoor Recreation / Parks Management & Access	Add Two Park Specialist Positions to Improve Management of Delta Area State Park Units	\$199.0 GF/Prgm (DGF) 2 PFT Positions Inc	Have these position been filled, and if so, when? Where are these positions based?																																							
Agency Response																																											
Both positions have been filled and are located in Delta Junction. The Park Ranger was hired on 08/19/24, and the Park Specialist was hired on 10/28/24.																																											
10	Parks & Outdoor Recreation / Parks Management & Access	Maintain Boat and Off-Road Vehicle Fleet	\$300.0 GF/Prgm (DGF) Inc	Will the agency fully utilize this funding for maintenance and stocking of parts? Please detail the costs and locations of maintenance events and/or stocking of spare parts.																																							
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These items are currently being purchased or have been purchased and are routinely maintained per manufactures requirements:																																											
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