

Please read the information below before accessing Alaska FIA data:

1) Interior Alaska counties and ecoregions:

- a) Not all inventory plots are finished being installed, see table 1 showing plots by county. Meaning forested areas within an area of interest may not be represented.
- b) Some counties overlap FIA inventory units, see map in Fig.1. Meaning estimates for these counties need to include plots from both inventories, depending on the estimate.
- c) FIA county boundaries do not reflect recent boundary adjustments, they have changed from what is found in COUNTYCD. Meaning estimates from adjusted counties do not account for impacted plots and could be misleading.

2) Glacier Bay National Park and USFS wilderness areas:

- a) FIA has never inventoried plots within Glacier Bay National Park.
- b) With the exception of 2005, FIA has not sampled land within designated wilderness and wilderness study areas in the Tongass and Chugach National Forests to preserve the wild nature of these areas. In 2005 permission was granted for FIA to access plots in designated wilderness/wilderness study areas in the Alaska Region National forests. FIA was unable to measure these areas since then – and did not remeasure the 2005 panel. Since FIA could not measure the area for more than 10 years, the wilderness area is excluded from this current estimate (approx. 3.4 Million acres of forest land).

3) Differences between coastal and interior AK inventories:

- a) A standard FIA plot grid of a single plot every 6,000 acres throughout the enormous area of Interior Alaska with limited road access would have incurred substantial financial investment and required excessively complicated logistics to complete 10 percent of all plots annually in a timely manner. Therefore, the plot network and inventory schedule were modified from national FIA protocols and differ from other states (including Coastal Alaska).
- b) The interior region was subdivided into six smaller units, broadly encompassing major watershed boundaries. Each inventory unit would be completed before moving to the next, resulting in a periodic rather than an annualized sample of Interior Alaska. The full inventory of Interior Alaska is estimated to require roughly 15-20 years to complete.
- c) The plot resolution in interior AK was reduced to one plot every 30,000 acres. FIA partnered with scientists from NASA to supplement the coarser plot grid with cutting-edge airborne-

based estimates of forest resources. Using this high-resolution imagery in the estimation phase improves the precision of estimates (i.e., lower standard errors) than would be possible with satellite imagery alone.

Table 1: Number of coastal and interior plots completed, estimated forested plots in 2020, and estimated forest plots that are incomplete, by Alaska counties, Alaska, 2019.

County Name	COASTAL FORESTED PLOTS COMPLETE	INTERIOR FORESTED PLOTS COMPLETE	FORESTED PLOTS in 2020	ESTIMATED FOREST PLOTS NOT COMPLETE
Aleutians East Borough				3
Aleutians West Census Area				
Anchorage Borough	40	2		
Bethel Census Area				288
Bristol Bay Borough				3
Denali Borough		129	3	1
Dillingham Census Area				111
Fairbanks North Star Borough		141		
Haines Borough	87			
Juneau Borough	97			
Kenai Peninsula Borough	442	10		13
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	129			
Kodiak Island Borough	99			8
Lake and Peninsula Borough				112
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	7	169		
Nome Census Area				86
North Slope Borough				13
Northwest Arctic Borough				170
Prince of Wales-Outer Ketchikan Census Area	773			
Sitka Borough	249			
Skagway-Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	432			
Southeast Fairbanks Census Area		294		69
Valdez-Cordova Census Area	473	155		
Wade-Hampton Census Area				78
Wrangell-Petersburg Census Area	501			
Yakutat Borough	103			
Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area		178	64	2256

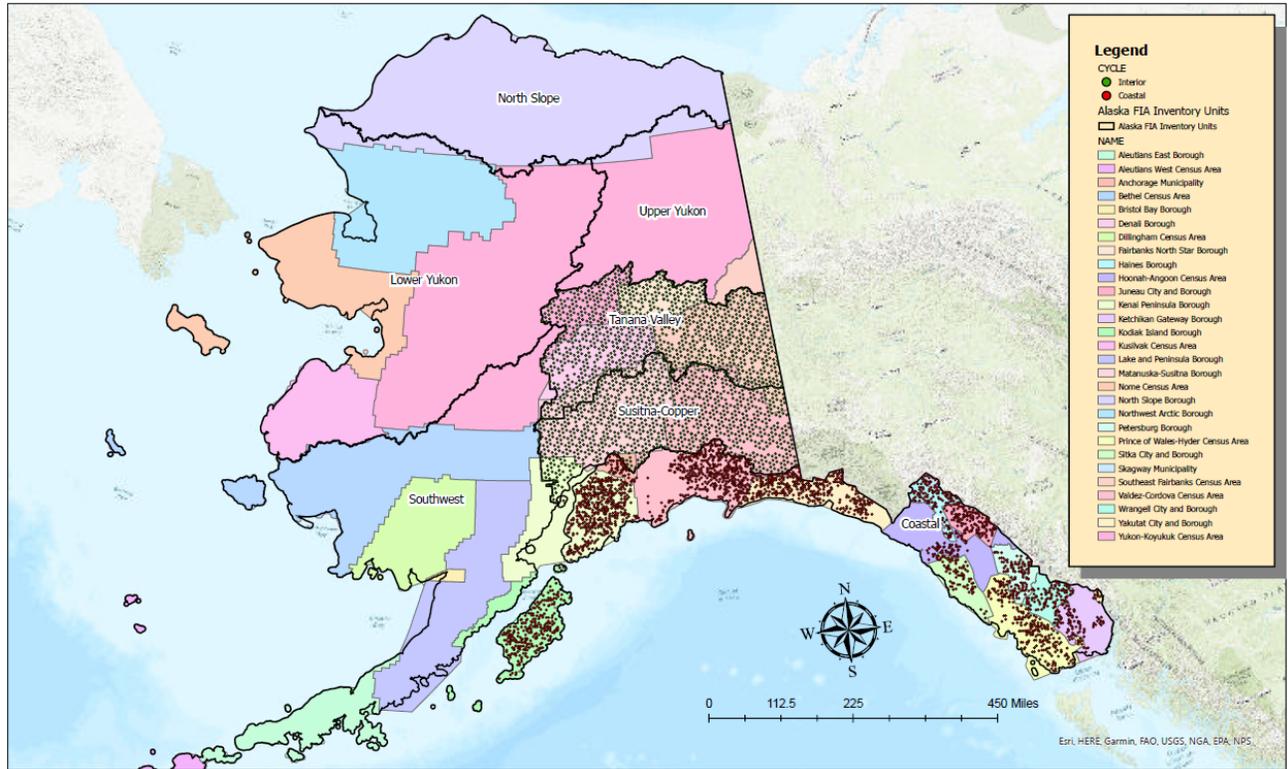


Figure 1. Some counties overlap FIA inventory units (bold black lines), meaning estimates for these counties need to include plots from both inventories, depending on the estimate, Alaska, 2019.