Alaska Society of American Foresters
Yukon River Chapter
2016 Chapter Report

Prepared by: Matthew Stevens, 2016 Chapter Chair

Elected officers:
- Matthew Stevens, Chair
- Fabian Keirn, Past Chair
- Tom St. Clair, Chair Elect
- Chris Maisch, Treasurer
- Dan Rees, Secretary

Chapter Meetings:
The Yukon River chapter held seven monthly meetings during 2016, January-April and September-December. The meetings were regularly scheduled for the third Thursday of each month.

SAF National and State Conventions:
The 2016 state convention was held at the Sheep Creek Lodge in North of Willow, Alaska. Members participated in presentations and discussions relating to various topics.
Also, the group toured are the Sockeye Fire aftermath. One of the houses that we stopped at, pictured below, is worth a mention. The fire burned around the perimeter of this property but, the immediate area around the house was left virtually untouched. This is due to the large defensible space that surrounded the home. Other dwellings that the group drove by did not fair nearly as well as this, most had substantial fire damage.

![Image of a house]

**Chapter Activities:**

- Firewood Workshop was held on February 20\textsuperscript{th} from 12-4 PM at the North Pole Library. Members presented information to the public on firewood issues. The issues included proper storage of firewood to ensure that it dries correctly, chainsaw use and maintenance, wood stove use and maintenance, areas accessible to gather firewood and many more.
• Firewood fundraiser preparation took place in the fall of 2016. Chapter members gathered, split and stacked about 1.5 cords of firewood to be later raffled off.

• Yukon River Chapter members were actively involved with supporting the Tanana Valley State Fair forestry booth. Members were available at the booth for the public to ask and discuss and forestry or natural resource concerns and questions that they may have.

• The Yukon River Chapter members developed a chapter logo during 2016. The logo is available at a local vendor to be embroidered on clothing or printed on other items.

**Technical Sessions:**

December 7th, 2016 530 PM Grizzlies Restaurant. Matthew Stevens presented 2016 Interior Alaska Forest Inventory & Analysis update to the chapter. The topic included discussions about FIA activities during the 2016 field season, FIA protocol, planning for upcoming field seasons and overall vision of FIA in Interior Alaska. Members received 1 CFE credit for attending the session.

During regularly scheduled monthly meetings future technical session ideas were discussed. The chapter coordinated 3 sessions for early 2017.