

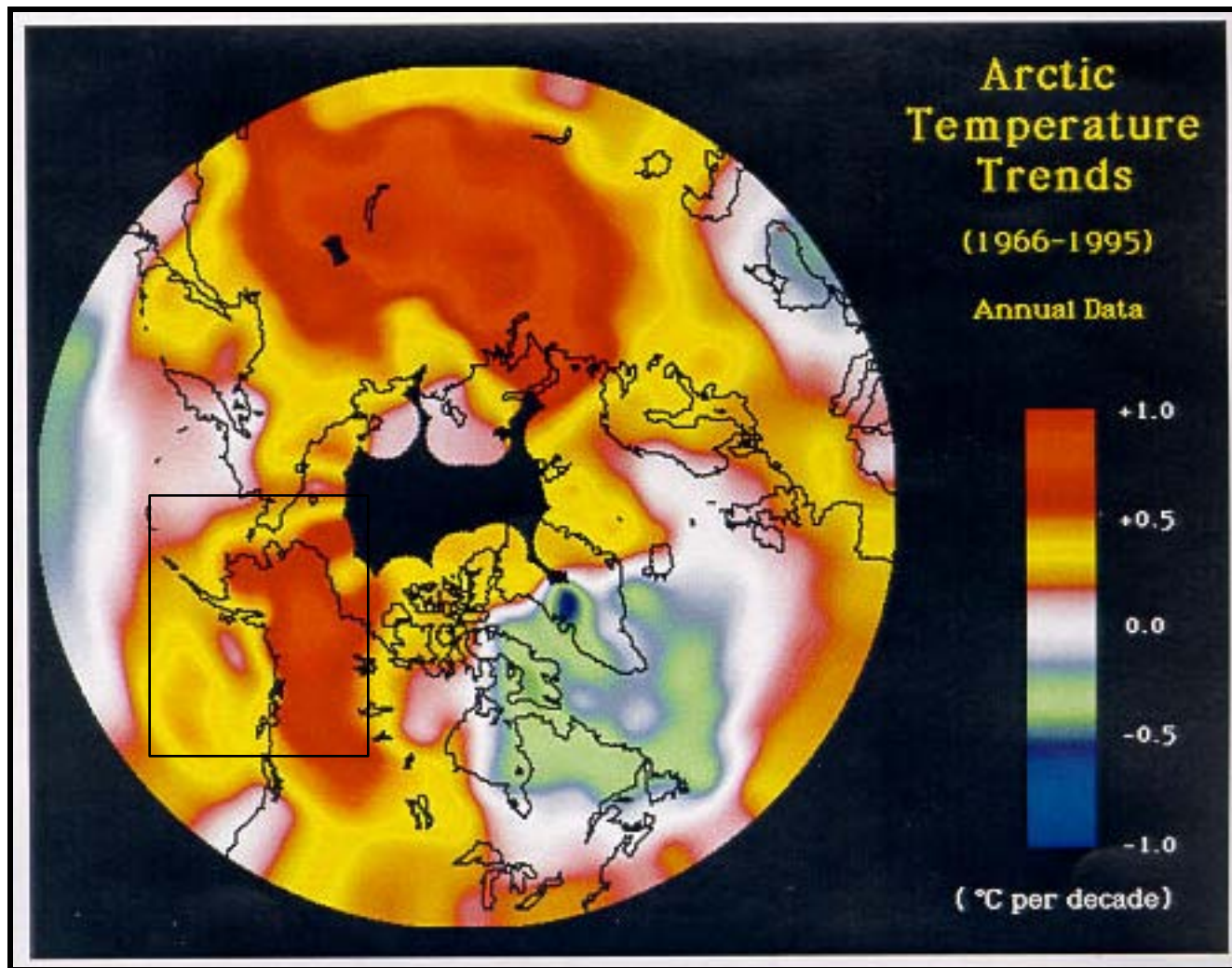
Assessing the Impact of Climate Change in Alaska: Current trends and future projections for forests

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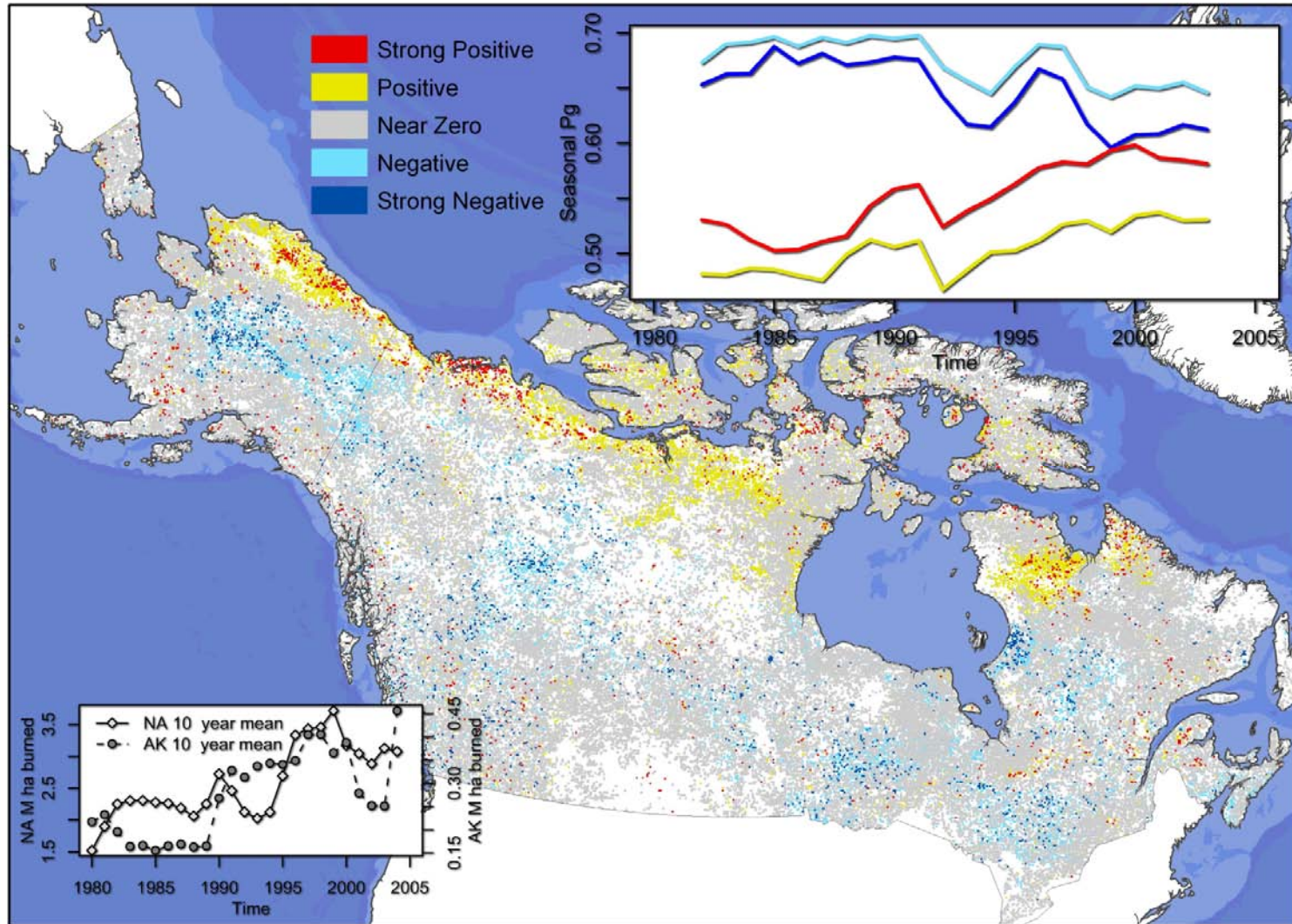
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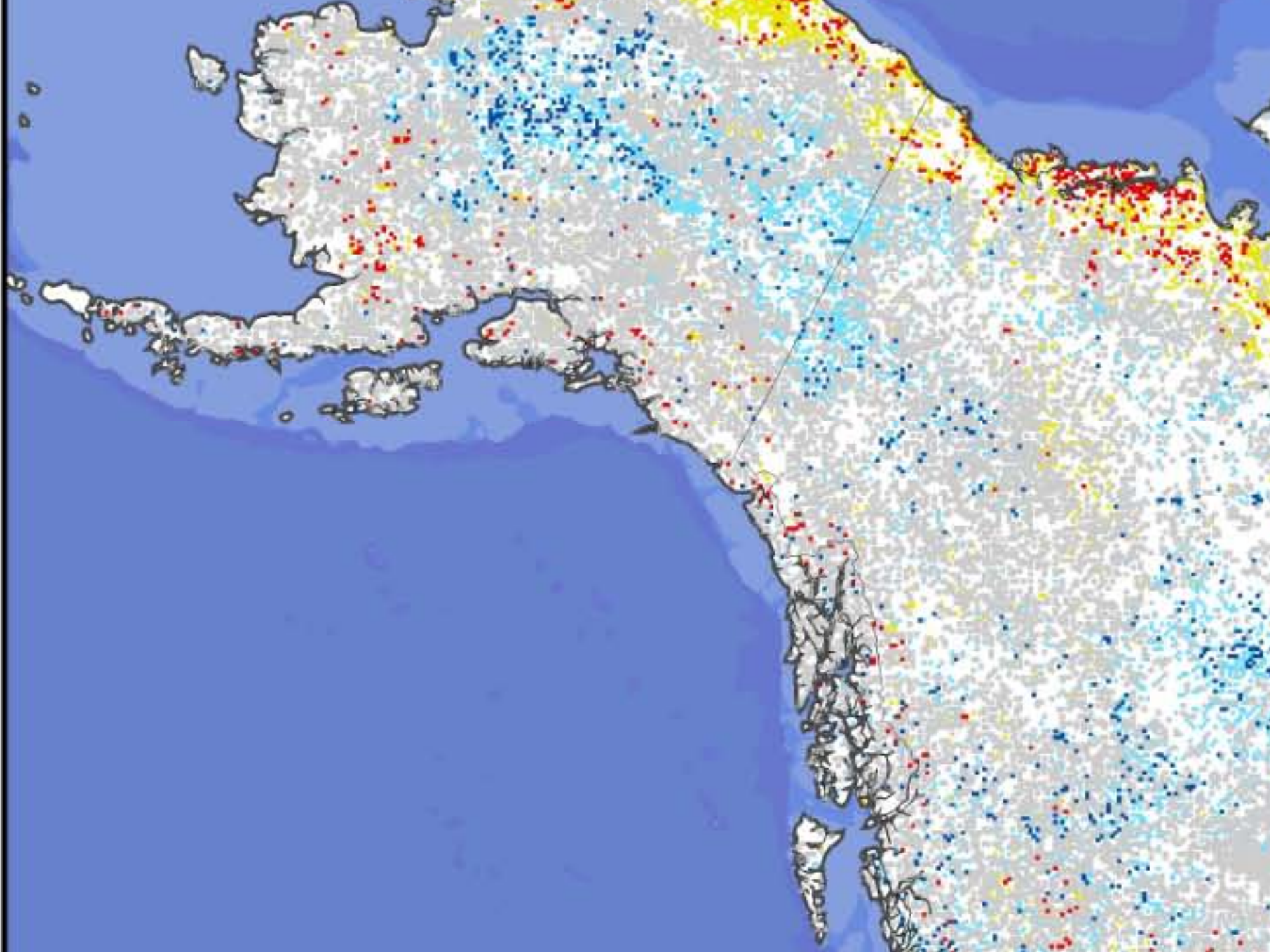
Changing climate at northern latitudes: current trends, and potential feedbacks



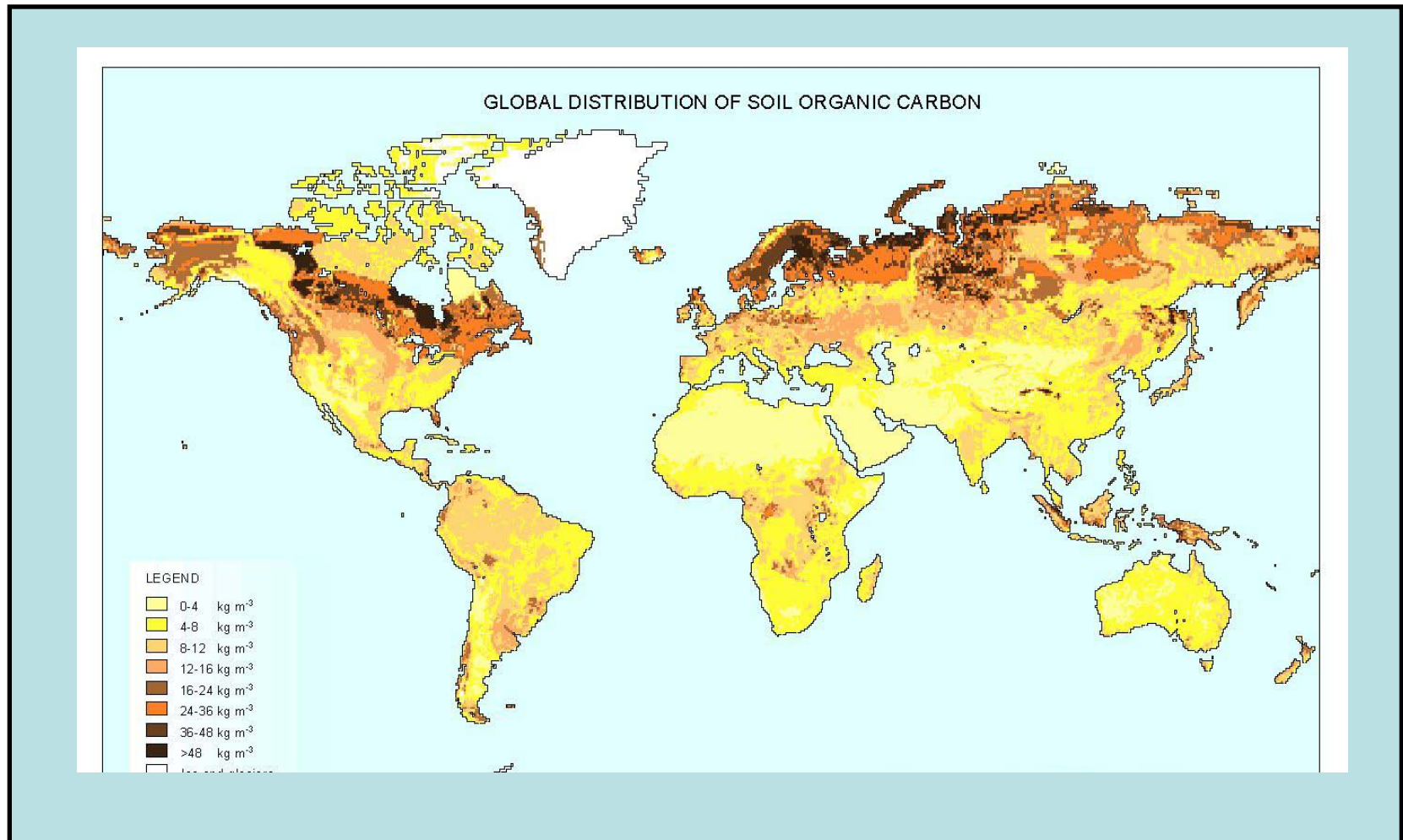
Changing climate at northern latitudes: Current trends and potential feedbacks



From Goetz et. al 2005



Changing climate at northern latitudes: Current trends and potential feedbacks



Goals of the Alaska Climate Change Assessment

- 1) Develop an outline with the current state of climate change research in Alaskan forests
- 1) Get stake-holder input into this product: Are we addressing relevant questions, what projections are of national, regional, and local interest?
 - Pre-meeting survey
 - Breakout groups and discussion
 - Website will be available and updates as the project progresses
- 1) Write an in depth General Technical Report and peer-reviewed journal article
 - Multiple authors from forest service and academia
 - Will include a section on stakeholder input, including results from our survey
 - Will include a section on: what is missing and where do we go from here

Goals of the Alaska Climate Change Assessment (cont.)

- 4) Create useful and easily accessible projections
 - SNAP to the rescue!

- 4) Education and outreach our results to the community, K-12 students, managers, and other researchers
 - Set of slides that will be available showing some of the key effects of climate change on forested areas of AK
 - Will make use of UAF Geography Program with further outreach
 - Will be included on the BNZ LTER Schoolyard webpage

Collaborative effort between PNW Research Station and SNAP

What do each bring to the table?

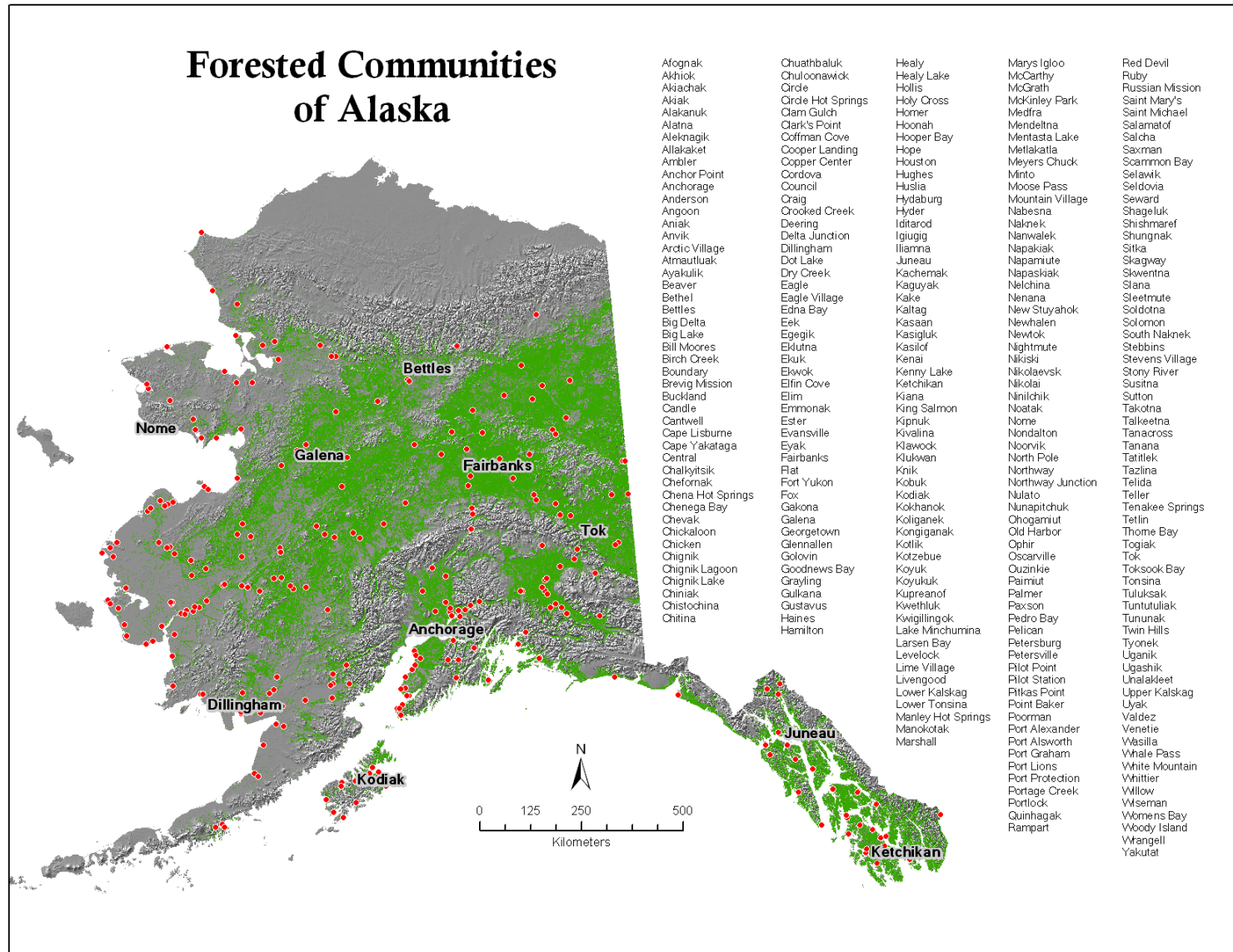
US Forest Service:

- 1) Responsibility to provide state-of-the-science assessments to the public, private, state and federal land managers.
- 2) Within the PNW Research Station, we have scientists working on climate change effects on carbon storage, fire regime, vegetation patterns, insect outbreaks, and hydrological networks (to name a few!)
- 3) The forest service (Region 10-Alaska) manages the two largest National Forests in the country

SNAP:

- 1) A collaborative network established to provide databases and maps projecting future conditions based on historical trends and current patterns
- 2) SNAP is based out of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, which is one of the leaders in climate change research.
- 3) SNAP is located in Fairbanks, where there is no National Forest and so interior Alaska is often overlooked. By engaging interior stakeholders via SNAP, the Forest Service is expanding the range of "forests of interest".

What do we mean by "forested Alaska"?



Tentative Timeline for completion

End of December 2009: Process and Analyze input from stakeholders via online survey and discussions from today

Late February/Early March 2010: Writers workshop to write peer-reviewed article

End of May 2010: Peer-reviewed journal article submitted

End of August 2010: GTR submitted with maps, projections, and future areas of research needed

Late September 2010: Slides and projections made available to the public, educators, and other stakeholders

Questions or Comments?