

June 5, 2025



# NORTH TO THE FUTURE

## Alaska Next-Gen SynFuel Refinery (ANSyR)

Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities  
Deputy Commissioner Katherine Keith, PMP, PMI-ACP



FedEx

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# What Is Sustainable Aviation Fuel?

SAF is a **low-carbon alternative to conventional Jet-A.**

It is chemically similar to fossil jet fuel and requires **no aircraft or infrastructure modifications.**

## Why SAF Matters in Alaska



Reduces reliance on imported fossil fuels



Supports energy security, job creation, and climate goals



Leverages in-state feedstocks like fish oil and forest biomass

**Reduces reliance on imported fossil fuels**

## How Is It Made?

SAF is produced by refining renewable feedstocks such



Waste oils and fats (e.g. fish oil, tallow)



Woody biomass (e.g. forestry residues)



Municipal solid waste



Captured CO<sub>2</sub> (for some advanced pathways)



## What Else Is Produced?

In addition to SAF, refineries may also produce:

**Renewable Diesel** – for road, marine, or heavy equipment use

**Renewable Naphtha** – a blendstock or petrochemical feed

**Electricity, steam, or carbon credits** – depending on process design

### RENEWABLE DIESEL FOR AMHS



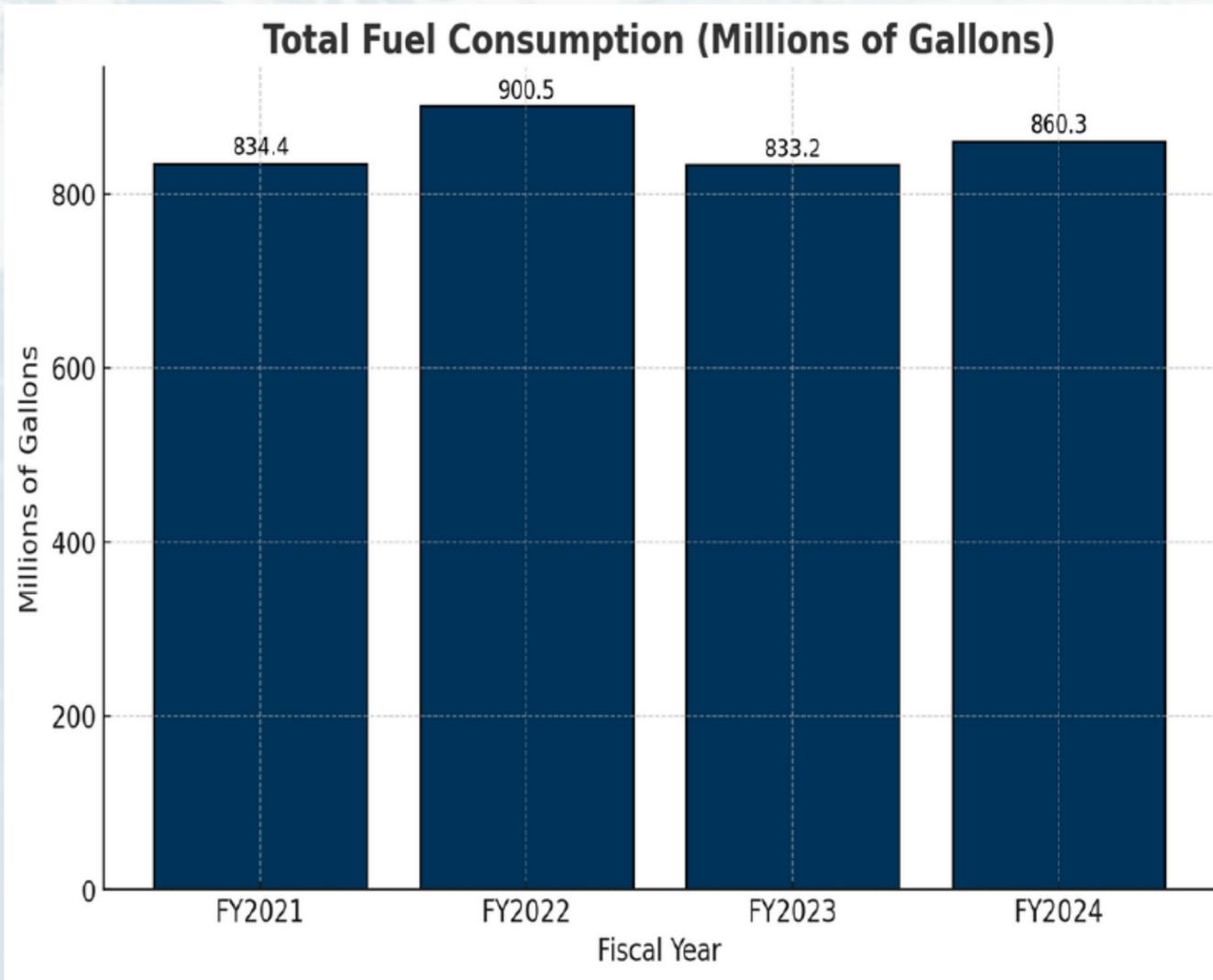
### SAF AT TED STEVENS INT'L AIRPORT



## A Drop-In Fuel for Today's Aircraft

# Alaska International Airport System

STRATEGIC CROSSROADS FOR GLOBAL AIR CARGO



**Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport**

- Major international cargo hub
- 4<sup>th</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> busiest cargo airport in the world

**Fairbanks International Airport**

- Passenger hub and reliever cargo airport
- Connected by Rail to Southcentral Alaska

**Lake Hood Seaplane Base**

- Seaplanes and Regional Air Carriers
- Busiest seaplane base in the world



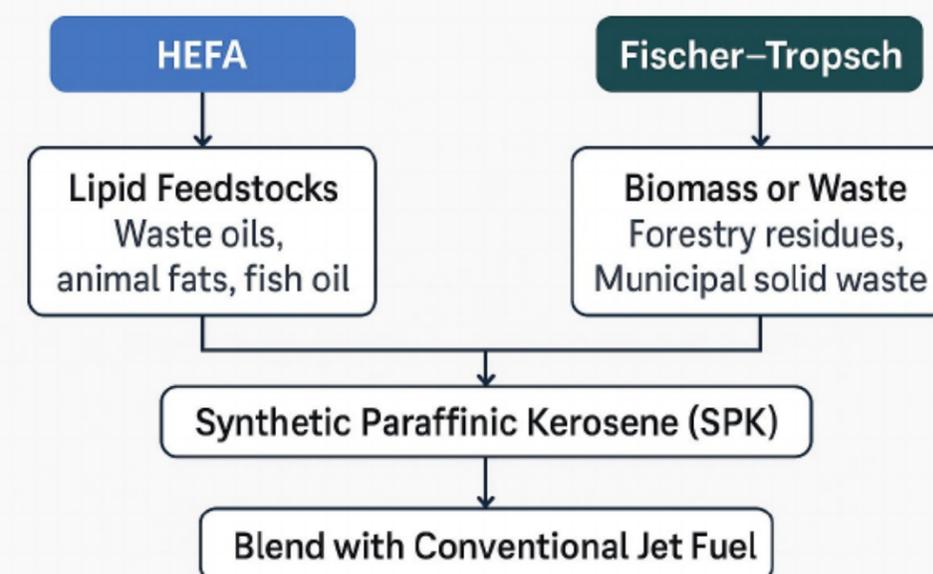
**~850 MGY handled through this supply chain at Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport**

# Synfuel Production Pathways

Category	Hydroprocessed Esters and Fatty Acids (HEFA)	Fischer-Tropsch (FT)
Tech Maturity	Commercial, deployed globally	Early-stage for biomass, mature for fossil gas-to-liquid
Primary Alaska Feedstocks	Waste oils, tallow, fish oil	Woody biomass, municipal solid waste, CO2
Best Fit for Alaska	Near-term option using seafood waste infrastructure; limited scalability	Long-term solution using forest biomass; aligned with carbon removal and forest health goals
Est. Cost per Gallon	\$6.50	\$4.30
Production Volume (MGY - millions gallon per year)	215 MGY (150 SAF, 54 diesel, 11 naphtha)	230 MGY (150 SAF, 58 diesel, 22 naphtha)
CapEx: Installed Cost	\$1.04B	\$2.8B
OpEx: Annual Operating Cost	\$1.04B/year (\$4.84/gal)	~\$534M/year (\$2.32/gal)
Feedstock Cost per gallon	Fish oil (\$4.35/gal)	Woody biomass (\$1.20/gal)



Synfuel Production Pathways – HEFA vs. Fischer-Tropsch



# Alaska's Biomass Landscape

Annual statewide fisheries production in 2023 was **~1.172 million tons (net weight)**, based on aggregated COAR data.

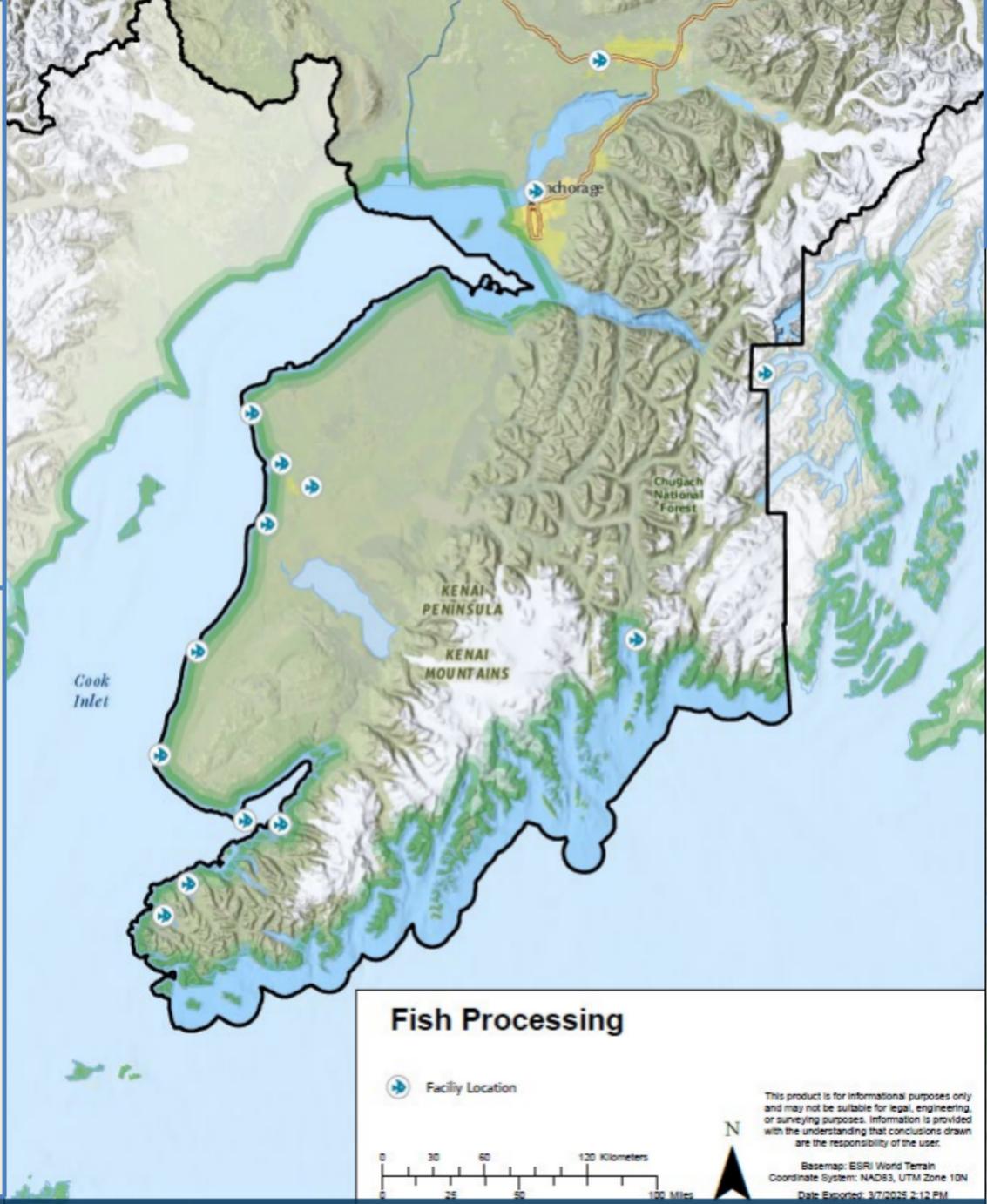
Processing concentrated in Kodiak, Dutch Harbor, Prince William Sound, Southeast Alaska, and Cook Inlet.

⚠️ COAR estimates exclude AYK and Bering Sea regions due to confidentiality thresholds.

**Fish oil accounts for ~10% of total fish biomass.**

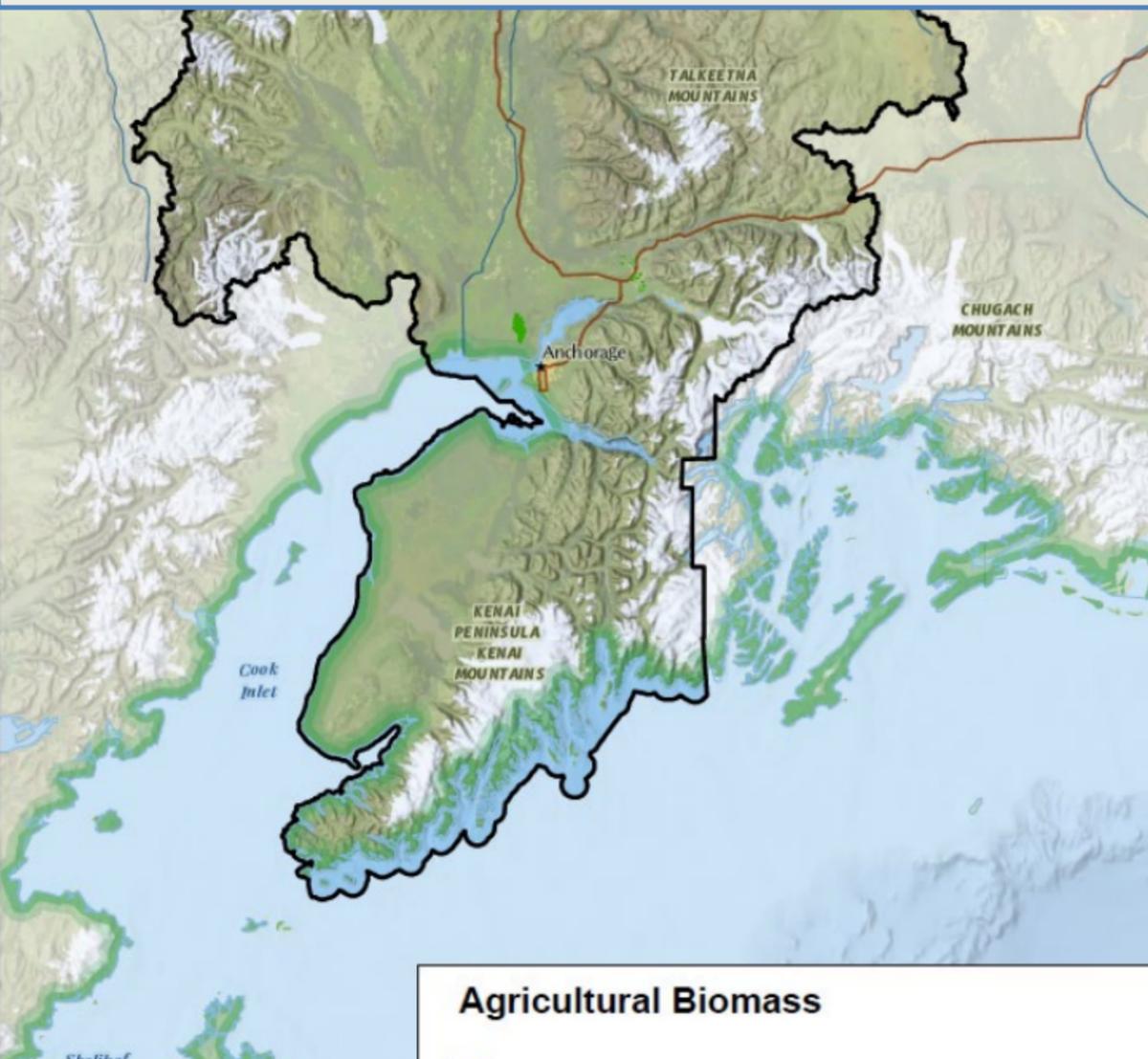
For HEFA SAF production at a scale of **215 MGY**, estimated fish oil input requirements are **~0.7–0.9 million tons/year**, assuming typical industry conversion yields.

Availability depends on species composition, lipid yield, and interannual catch variability.



Hay production within the analysis area (Mat-Su Valley & Kenai Peninsula) is estimated at **16,600 dry tons per year**.

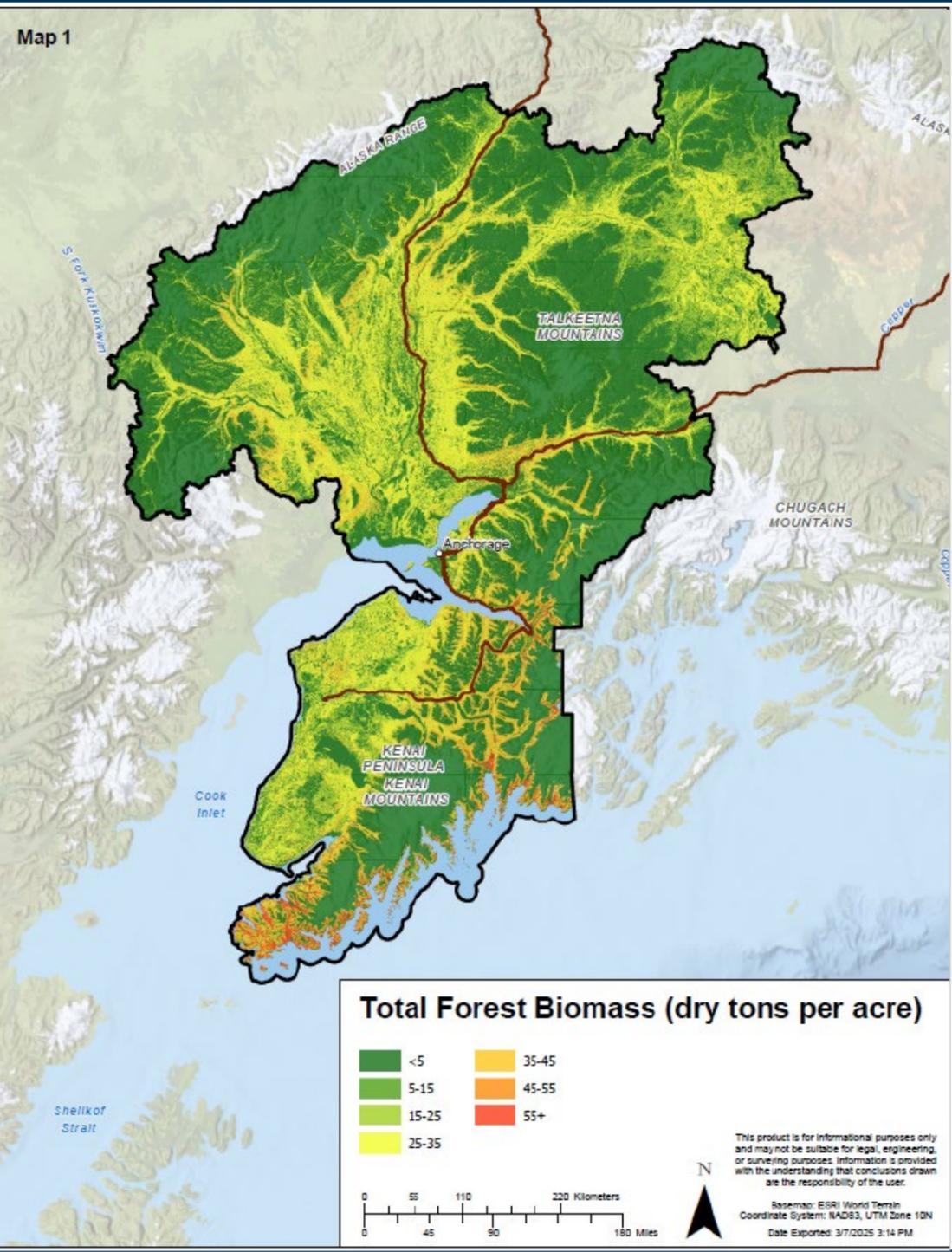
Key growing regions: Palmer and Point MacKenzie.



\*DOT&PF Preliminary Biomass Inventory by Mason, Bruce & Girard and Evergreen Economics, March 2025  
 COAR (Commercial Operator's Annual Report) data exclude estimates from AYK and Bering Sea regions due to confidentiality thresholds.

# Alaska's Woody Biomass

## Preliminary Inventory – Mat-Su Valley & Kenai Peninsula



For a target output of **230 MGY** of synfuel, approximately **4.9 million dry tons** (equivalent to **9.8 million green tons**) of woody biomass are required, assuming standard moisture content and conversion yields.

The woody biomass in this studied area alone holds enough energy to power nearly 100,000 Alaskan homes for a year — the equivalent of supplying every home in Anchorage with electricity.

### Road-Accessible Woody Biomass and Growth (Dry Tons)

Biomass Type	Within ¼ Mile of Road	Within 1 Mile of Road
Standing Live Volume	16,177,000	39,982,000
Standing Dead Volume	2,578,000	6,255,000
<b>Total Dry Tons</b>	<b>18,755,000</b>	<b>46,236,000</b>
<b>Annual Growth Total</b>	<b>231,095</b>	<b>571,114</b>

\*Forest biomass is primarily harvestable during winter due to wet soil conditions in Mat-Su.

**1 dry ton = ~18 gigajoules = ~47 gallons Sustainable Aviation Fuel**

# Optimizing Synfuel Yields

Target Output = 150 Million Gallons per Year (MGY) Sustainable Aviation Fuel

HEFA Pathway					
Scenario	SAF Yield	Diesel Yield	Estimated Incremental Cost (\$/gallon SAF*)	Hydrogen Use (kg per barrel of SAF)	Co-Product Impact
Baseline	60%	35%	\$3.50 – \$4.50	3.0	Balanced SAF/Diesel
High SAF	75%	20%	\$4.00 – \$5.00	4.0	Lower diesel revenue
Max SAF	80%	15%	\$4.50 – \$5.50	4.5	Minimal diesel, high SAF

Fischer-Tropsch Pathway					
Scenario	SAF Yield	Diesel Yield	Estimated Incremental Cost (\$/gallon SAF*)	Hydrogen Use (kg per barrel of SAF)	Co-Product Impact
Baseline	55%	35%	\$4.50 – \$6.00	2.5	Balanced SAF/Diesel
High SAF	70%	20%	\$5.00 – \$6.50	3.5	Reduced diesel revenue
Max SAF	75%	15%	\$5.50 – \$7.00	4.0	Minimal diesel, high SAF

Comparative Output Summary Table					
Production Pathway	SAF (MGY)	Diesel (MGY)	Naphtha (MGY)	Total Fuel (MGY)	Co-Product Share (%)
HEFA	150	54	11	215	30.2%
Fischer-Tropsch	150	58	23	231	35.1%

Suggested values based on average Minimum Selling Retail Price (MSRP)

**Assumptions:** Commercial-scale hydrotreatment (HEFA) and gasification–FT synthesis based on optimized catalyst ratios, thermal efficiency, and hydrogen procurement strategy. Assumes stable input feedstock costs and consistent reactor efficiency.

# Existing Infrastructure in Alaska

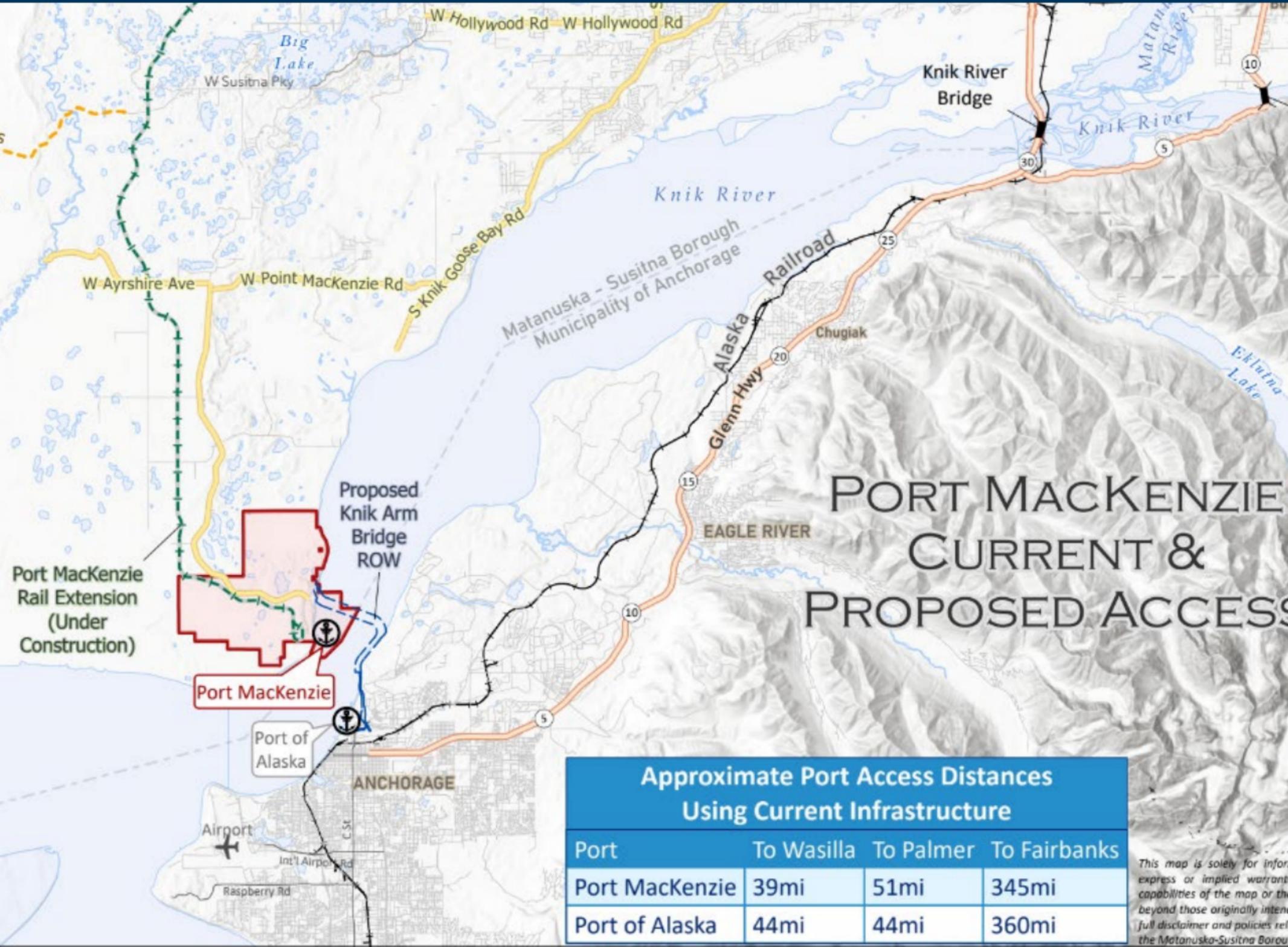


	Site	Existing Infrastructure	Readiness	Required Upgrades	Opportunities/Constraints
Refineries	<b>Petro Star Refineries (Valdez &amp; North Pole)</b>	Small topping refineries (~22,000 bpd combined), limited hydrotreating-may co-process up to 5% bio-feed	✗ Minimal	Major upgrades: feedstock pretreatment, hydrogen plant, catalyst changes	⚠️ Remote, limited capacity; not viable for large-scale SAF
	<b>Marathon Kenai Refinery</b>	Large-scale refinery: distillation, hydrotreaters, tank farm, dock, workforce, permits	✓ High	Feed pretreatment, catalyst switch, hydrogen expansion, PSA/CCS, possible dock heating	✓ Retrofit-ready; proximity to NG; reduced CAPEX
Pipeline	<b>Port-to-Airport Pipeline (Anchorage)</b>	~5M barrels/year throughput, trending upward	⚠️ Approaching capacity	Pump upgrades or twinning by ~2030	⚠️ Critical link for SAF; pressure spec & future compatibility to assess
Airports & Storage	<b>TSAIA (Anchorage Airport)</b>	Modern fuel farm, hydrant system, large-volume throughput	Available	Optional: fuel stratification mixers, SAF tank if segregated	✓ SAF-ready fueling system; minor additions only
	<b>Port of Alaska (Anchorage)</b>	Tank farms, fuel terminals, marine dock, pipeline to airport	✓ High	SAF-dedicated tanks, blending systems, minor pipeline upgrades	✓ Excellent for SAF distribution; limited local feedstock access
	<b>Storage and Blending (Kenai &amp; Anchorage)</b>	Tank farms, in-line blending systems	Available	Blend controllers, SAF-dedicated tanks, certification metering	✓ Leverages existing systems; minor retrofits needed
Ports	<b>Port MacKenzie</b>	Accommodates Panamax-class vessels; 1,000 psf live load on the bulkhead staging pad; 200-ton crawler crane and 200,000 lb axle load capacity on the deep-draft dock	Available	No dedicated Ro-Ro ramp; Rail extension to the port not completed	✓ Excellent for refinery construction and synfuel distribution.

# Port MacKenzie

## Potential Greenfield Site

- 1,200 ft Deep Draft Dock -60' at low tide
- 375 ft Barge Dock -20' at low tide
- Open year round



### PORT MACKENZIE CURRENT & PROPOSED ACCESS

Approximate Port Access Distances Using Current Infrastructure			
Port	To Wasilla	To Palmer	To Fairbanks
Port MacKenzie	39mi	51mi	345mi
Port of Alaska	44mi	44mi	360mi



**Zoning Overview**  
 Port Industrial District I = 3,047 acres  
 Port Industrial District II = 4,836 acres

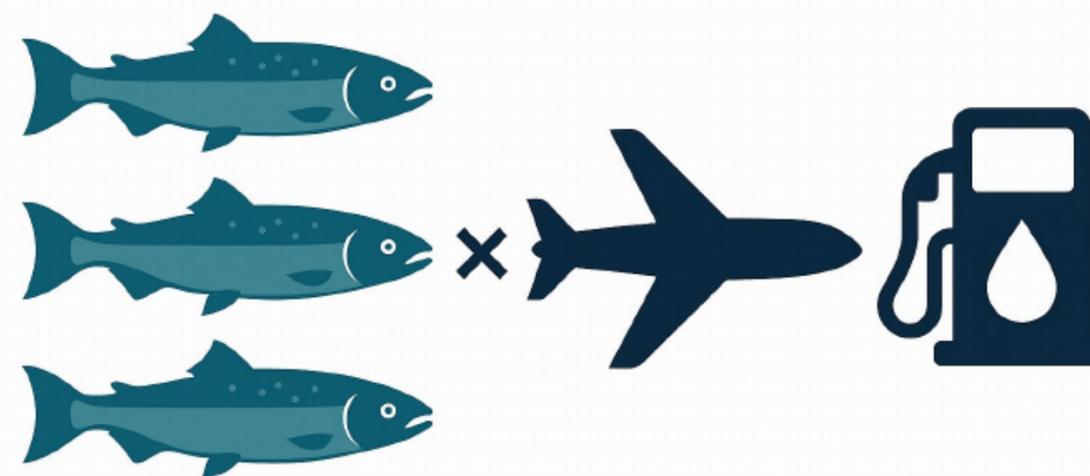
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# Fish Oil Conversion to Synfuel

Items	Material / Input	Units/Notes
 Fish Biomass	~25 lbs per fish	Assumed 10% yield of oil
 Fish Oil (Feedstock)	1 gallon (≈3.5 kg)	Average energy content ≈ 33 MJ/kg
 Hydrogen	~0.1 kg per gallon SAF	Required for hydroprocessing: deoxygenation and saturation
 Utilities (Steam, Power)	~7.5 MJ thermal energy	Used for heating, compression, and separation processes
 Final Output	1 gallon SAF	Energy content ≈ 42.8 MJ/gal

**It takes 3 salmon to make 1 gallon of sustainable aviation fuel.**



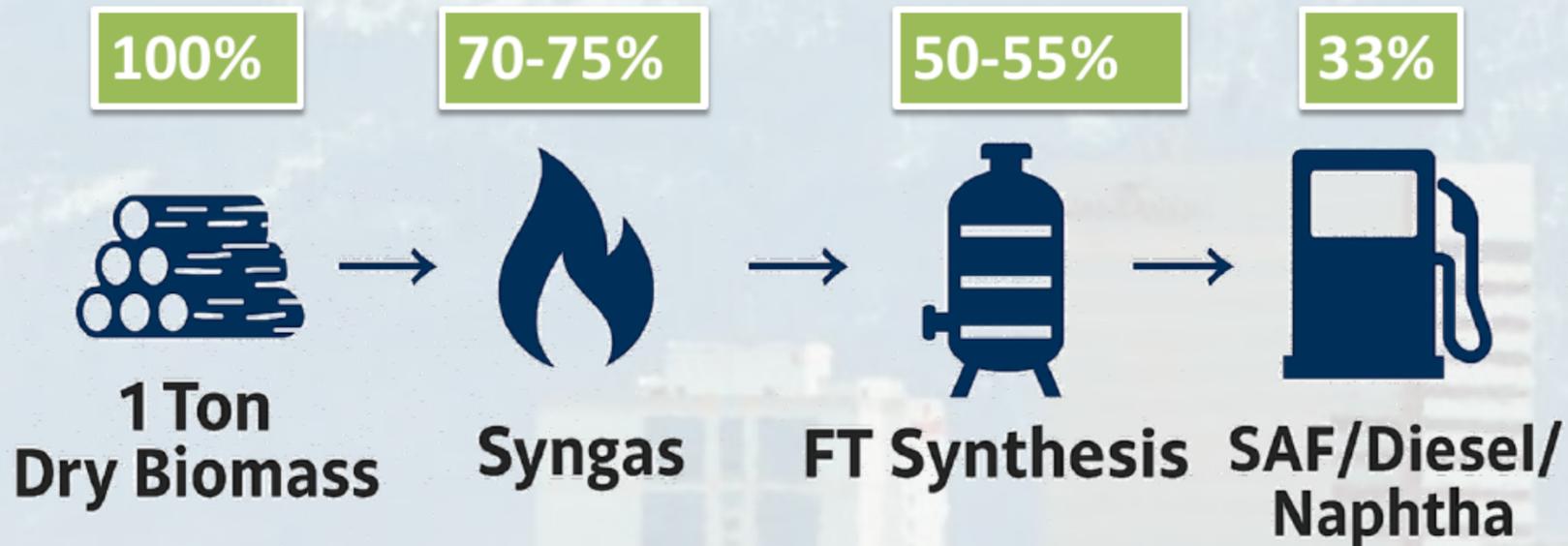
Alaska Fish	Oil Yield (% by weight)	Energy Content (MJ/kg)	Typical Annual Harvest in Alaska (Metric Tons)	Oil yield (MT)	SAF Yield (Million Gallons)
Herring	10–20%	~39–41	345,000 (138,000 in by-products)	27,600	7.3
Salmon	8–12%	~39–42	468,800 (187,520 in by-products)	22,502	5.9
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>50,102 Metric Tons</b>	<b>13.2 MGY</b>

**Alaska’s current fisheries byproducts could support a small-scale, synfuel refinery—potentially modular or co-located with existing rendering infrastructure—producing approximately 9% of the targeted SAF output of 150 MGY.**

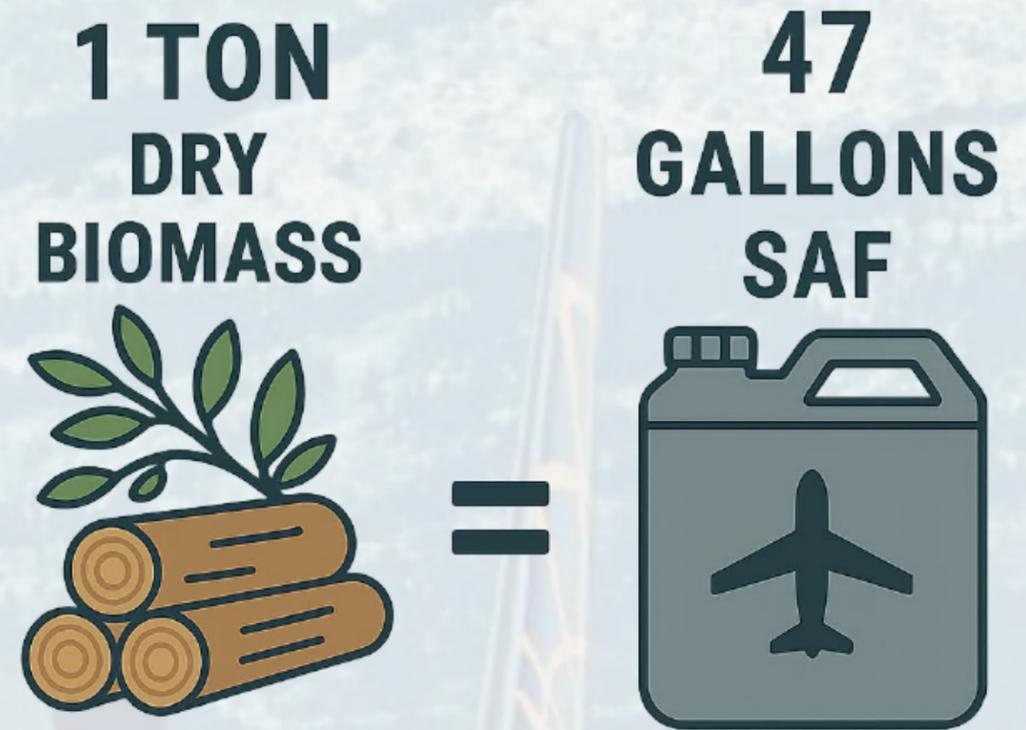
# Woody Biomass Conversion to Synfuel

## Biomass Intake Requirements

- ◆ Annual Fuel Output Target: 230 million gallons/year
- ◆ Biomass Needed (dry basis): 4.9 million metric tons
- ◆ Equivalent Moisture-Adjusted Feedstocks:
  - 5.75 million metric tons @ 15% moisture content
  - 9.78 million metric tons @ 50% moisture content



Carbon and energy yield into liquid fuel is ~33%

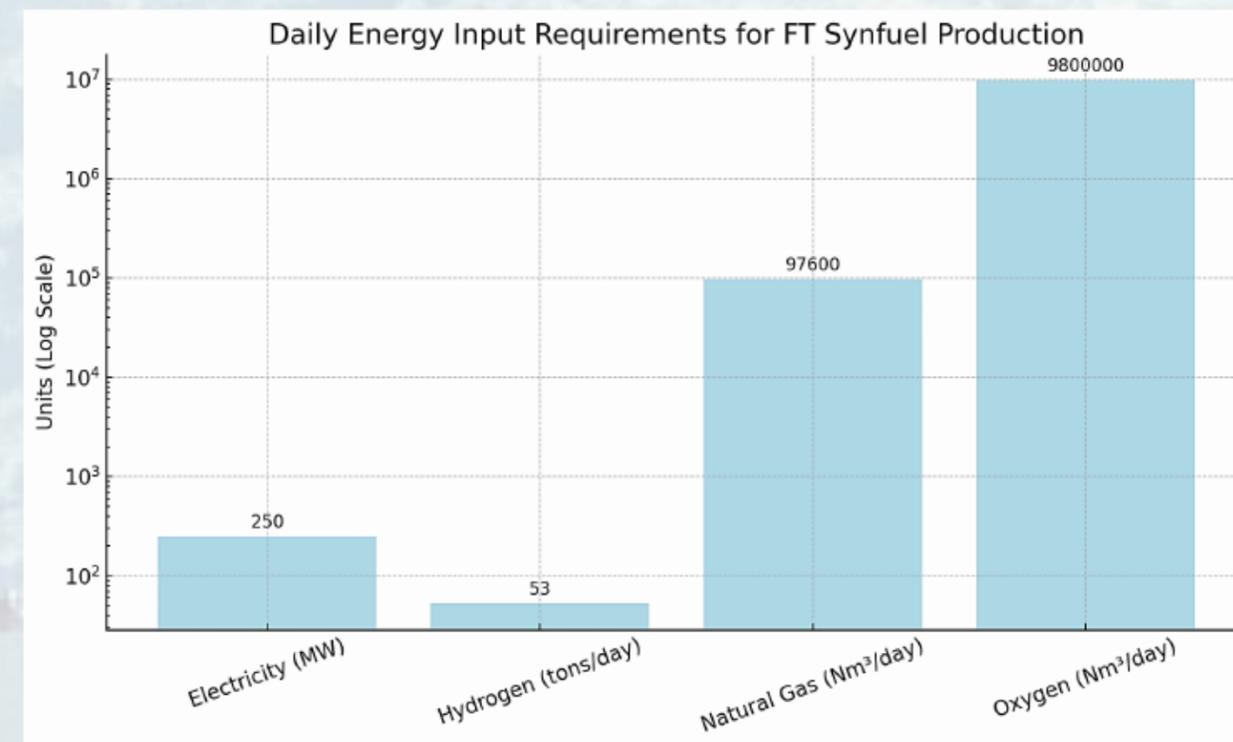


# Fisher-Tropsch 230 MGY Refinery

## Daily Energy & Mass Balance



Input	Daily Input Requirement	Primary Use
⚡ Electricity	Approximately 250 MW of continuous power	Powers air separation unit, industrial compressors, and plant support systems
💧 Hydrogen (H <sub>2</sub> )	52.6 metric tons per day	Used to convert waxy synthetic fuel into jet fuel through catalytic processing
🔥 Natural Gas	50,600 normal cubic meters per day (Steam Methane Reformer- SMR)	Provides hydrogen via steam reforming
	47,000 normal cubic meters per day (Combined Heat And Power - CHP)	Supplies fuel for power generation
🌀 Oxygen (O <sub>2</sub> )	14,000 metric tons per day (approx. 9.8 million cubic meters)	Required for converting biomass into synthesis gas using high-temperature gasification



# Fisher-Tropsch 230 MGY Refinery

## Key Design Parameters

**230 million gallons per year total**  
150 MGY of sustainable aviation fuel  
58 MGY of renewable diesel  
22 MGY of renewable naphtha

System Area	Design Sizing & Capability
<b>Biomass Feedstock</b>	15,000 metric tons per day of green woody biomass (approximately 7,500 dry tons per day); 4.0 million metric tons per year total input
<b>Feedstock Preparation</b>	7 industrial wood chippers, 10 hammer mills, and 15 rotary biomass dryers
<b>Gasification System</b>	5 oxygen-blown, entrained-flow gasifier reactors (approximately 3,000 dry tons per day each)
<b>Oxygen Supply System</b>	14,000 metric tons per day via cryogenic air separation; power demand: 120–130 MW
<b>Fischer–Tropsch Reactor System</b>	5 reactor trains using slurry bubble column reactors; approximately 20,000 barrels per day of synthetic hydrocarbon liquids
<b>Fuel Upgrading (Hydroprocessing)</b>	Hydrocracker with 20,000 barrels per day capacity; includes isomerization to improve jet fuel and diesel properties
<b>Hydrogen Production System</b>	50 metric tons per day of hydrogen via steam methane reforming; includes pressure swing adsorption purification and carbon dioxide capture from reformer flue gas
<b>Carbon Dioxide Capture and Storage</b>	Approximately 4 million metric tons per year captured; includes drying, compression, a 20-mile pipeline, and subsea geologic injection infrastructure
<b>Onsite Power and Steam Generation</b>	250 MW combined heat and power system (gas turbines, heat recovery steam generator, steam turbine); approximately 100 megawatts available for export. 100 MW surplus electricity may be exportable
<b>Water Treatment and Cooling Systems</b>	\$15 million for process and boiler water treatment; \$15 million for cooling towers capable of rejecting approximately 230 megawatts of thermal load
<b>Fuel Storage Capacity</b>	Two tanks for sustainable aviation fuel (~300,000 barrels total), one tank for renewable diesel (~150,000 barrels), and one tank for renewable naphtha (~75,000–100,000 barrels), providing approximately 30 days of product storage
<b>Product Loading and Distribution</b>	\$15 million for marine loading dock and infrastructure; 10-mile pipeline to Port MacKenzie terminal; optional truck and rail loading systems

# Fisher-Tropsch 230 MGY Refinery

## Class Four Estimate: Total Installed Cost



Feedstock Logistics & Handling	\$83,250,000
Gasification & Syngas Production	\$609,400,000
Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis & Product Upgrading	\$492,500,000
Utility Systems (CHP, SMR, ASU)	\$649,600,000
Product Storage & Distribution	\$62,400,000
CO2 Management	\$191,200,000
Site Infrastructure	\$69,300,000
<b>Direct Costs</b>	<b>\$2,157,650,000</b>
<b>Contingency (15%)</b>	<b>\$323,647,500</b>
<b>Preconstruction Costs (14%)</b>	<b>\$302,071,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,783,368,500</b>

The total installed cost of a 230 million gallons per year Fischer-Tropsch refinery is estimated at approximately **\$2.78 billion**, based on a Class 4 level estimate (-30% to +50%).

## Fisher-Tropsch 230 MGY Refinery FT 230MW Total Installed Cost



Gasification



FT  
synthesis

**\$2.96 billion**

In Alaska using woody biomass for feedstock

# Fisher-Tropsch 230 MGY Refinery

## Rough Order of Magnitude Annual Operating Costs (OpEx)

~\$534 million per year to operate

Cost Category	Annual Cost (\$M)	\$ per Gallon	Key Assumptions (Base Year)
<b>Fixed</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>0.66</b>	
Insurance & Property Tax	46	0.20	~0.5% insured value + ~1% capital PILOT tax
Labor (Ops & Maint.)	21	0.09	~180 FTE @ ~\$100k/yr fully burdened
Admin & Overhead	5	0.02	G&A ~20% of labor cost, incl. office staff, HR, accounting, admin systems
Maintenance (Routine)	60	0.26	~2% of capital in spare parts/repairs; routine inspections and contractor services
Maintenance (Turnaround)	5	0.02	Major overhauls 5-yearly (~\$25–30 MM each, amortized)
Regulatory & Compliance	7	0.03	Title V air permit, stormwater/WQ, hazardous materials tracking, CEMS maintenance, EPCRA
Misc Operations	8	0.04	Tied to financing, compliance, and digital operations
<b>Variable</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>1.28</b>	
Water & Utilities	2	0.01	Well water ~1.5 MGD @ \$0.50/kgal; on-site O <sub>2</sub> production
Supplemental Natural Gas for CHP	4	0.01	Electricity/steam generation supplement to FT off-gas; \$11,448/day gas cost
Natural Gas for SMR	5	0.02	~50k Nm <sup>3</sup> /day for H <sub>2</sub> production via SMR (~1.8 MMSCFD) @ \$6.90/Mcf
Feedstock	276	1.20	8.9M green tons × \$75/ton = \$667M/year; procured on wet basis
Waste Disposal	1	0.01	Minor solid/hazardous waste: spent catalyst, sorbents, filters, water treatment sludges
Chemicals & Catalysts	7	0.03	Cobalt-based FT catalyst and Pt hydrotreater catalyst (5-yr cycles); solvents, water treatment
<b>Distribution</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0.09</b>	
Marine Barge (Port MacKenzie → Anchorage)	10	0.04	Cook Inlet barge ops; tug fuel, crew, mooring, terminal ops at both ends
TSAIA Jet Fuel System Integration Costs	5	0.02	Storage tank leasing, hydrant fees, safety compliance, aviation liability insurance
Storage and Blending at the Port of Alaska	5	0.02	Tank heating, maintenance, metering, throughput fee, fuel quality testing (ASTM D1655 compliance)
<b>CCS</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>0.29</b>	
CO <sub>2</sub> Transport & Storage	67	0.29	~6.55 MtCO <sub>2</sub> /year captured and injected @ \$10/ton; compression, pipeline, well monitoring
<b>Total OpEx (Year 1)</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>2.32</b>	<b>All costs in constant 2025 dollars; excludes power export, excludes LCFS/45Q revenue credits.</b>

# Delivered Cost of Synfuel

## Preliminary Pre-Incentive Pricing Model



Cost Component	HEFA (\$/gal)	FT (\$/gal)	Explanation
Capital Recovery (Depreciated CapEx)	\$0.19	\$0.48	Capital recovery amortized over 25 years. Includes full EPC cost, contingency, and indirect costs.
Operating Expenses	\$4.84	\$2.32	Includes all fixed and variable O&M: feedstock, labor, maintenance, utilities, and catalysts.
Debt Service (Interest Only)	\$0.19	\$0.28	Interest-only cost from DOE loan (i.e., \$2.07B @ 6% over 30 years). Equity cost captured in Capital Recovery above.
Net Production Cost	<b>\$5.22</b>	<b>\$3.08</b>	<b>Final estimated cost per gallon of fuel produced after accounting for financing.</b>
Equity Return – IRR target	\$0.75	\$0.75	Includes both principal repayment + return on equity (ROE)
Optional Market Uplift	\$0.50	\$0.50	Market-driven uplift; optional depending on buyer
Total Cost to Airlines	<b>\$6.47</b>	<b>\$4.33</b>	Excludes credits (e.g., LCFS, RFS, SAF tax credits, 45Q)

# Pathway Comparisons



Metric	HEFA Pathway Refinery	Fischer–Tropsch Pathway Refinery
<b>Total Cost per Gallon</b>	\$6.47	\$4.33
<b>Production Volume</b>	215 MGY (150 SAF, 54 diesel, 11 naphtha)	230 MGY (150 SAF, 58 diesel, 22 naphtha)
<b>CapEx: Total Installed Cost</b>	\$1,044,126,000	\$2,783,368,500
<b>OpEx: Total Annual Operating Cost</b>	\$1.04B/year (\$4.84/gal)	~\$534M/year (\$2.32/gal)
<b>Primary Feedstock / Cost per gallon</b>	Fish oil (\$4.35/gal)	Woody biomass (\$1.20/gal)
<b>Conversion Technology</b>	Hydroprocessing (HEFA)	Gasification + FT synthesis
<b>Reactor System</b>	2 Hydrodeoxygenation + 1 Isomerization	5 Slurry FT reactors + 1 Hydrocracker
<b>Hydrogen Source / Demand</b>	Steam Methane Reforming (SMR) / 88,000 kg per day	SMR + CHP integration / 50,000 kg per day
<b>Electric Power Demand</b>	~50 MW (mainly hydroprocessing + SMR)	250 MW (ASU, gasifier, CHP)

The **Fischer–Tropsch pathway** offers a **lower-cost, higher-impact, and scalable long-term SAF solution** for Alaska, supported by biomass availability and deep CO<sub>2</sub> reduction potential.

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The **HEFA pathway** may serve as a **modular, early-phase deployment** but is constrained by high feedstock cost and volume limitations.

# WE HAVE A PLAN

## SAF IN ALASKA: PATHWAY TO 2030



### Phase 1: SAF Feasibility Analysis January – July 2025

- Stakeholder Outreach: Airlines, airports, agencies
- Feasibility Studies: Feedstock, technology, logistics
- Partner Outreach: Producers, agencies, investors
- Financial Modeling: Costs, funding, partnerships

### Phase 2: Preliminary Design and Pre-Application August - December 2025

- Preliminary Design: Site selection, technology, infrastructure
- Environmental Scoping: Carbon lifecycle assessment
- Regulatory Work: Permitting agencies, key requirements, DOE pre-application

### Phase 3: Blending SAF Imports 2026 - 2030

- SAF Imports: Suppliers, agreements, blending logistics
- Blending Hubs: Anchorage or Fairbanks locations

### Phase 4: Final Design and Permitting 2026 – 2028

- Final Design: Complete SAF facility plans
- Permitting & Funding: Secure approvals and financing
- Construction: Build facility and infrastructure

### Phase 5: Staged Construction 2028 – 2030

- Construction: Suppliers, agreements, blending logistics
- 2030 Launch: SAF production begins in Alaska

# **Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities**

**Deputy Commissioner Katherine Keith, PMP, PMI-ACP**  
**[Katherine.Keith@alaska.gov](mailto:Katherine.Keith@alaska.gov)**

