

Alaska is more than twice the size of Texas, the largest of the lower 48 states. The amount of Alaska underlain by permafrost is equal to the size of three Californias. Ten states are smaller than the area covered by glaciers in Alaska.



The area of Alaska owned by private individuals and Native corporations is about the same size as the area of Michigan; 27 states are smaller than that. Much of Alaska is owned and managed by the federal government, which purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867 for about 1.9 cents per acre or \$4.74 per square kilometer.

The U.S. Forest Service manages an area in Alaska about the size of South Carolina and Alaska has more national parks and preserves than all the other states combined. Alaska's national parks and preserves cover an area about the size of Kansas. The area managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is slightly larger than Arizona, and the Alaska state government and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) both have chunks of land about the size of New Mexico.

Alaska's volcanoes along the Alaska Peninsula and the Aleutian Islands stretch roughly the distance from Tulsa, Oklahoma, to San Francisco. This does not count those in the Wrangell Mountains and on the west side of Cook Inlet. Forty three of Alaska's volcanoes have erupted since 1767, when people started keeping written records.

Alaska's treeless North Slope, the area north of the Brooks Range, has average annual temperatures in the range of 10 degrees Celsius below zero and continuous permafrost up to 600 meters thick. The area of the North Slope is about 200,000 square kilometers, roughly the size of Nebraska. Alaska's 19,000 square kilometers of lakes occupy more space than all of the Hawaiian Islands.

