



FIRE NEWS

BLM Alaska Fire Service



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Prescribed Burns Scheduled at Fort Richardson

Ft. Wainwright, AK — The United States Army, in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management's Alaska Fire Service, will initiate several prescribed burns on Fort Richardson training ranges starting April 29, 2009 and continuing through the end of May, when weather conditions are favorable for burning and adequate smoke dispersal.

The primary objectives of the prescribed burns are to decrease surface fuels, primarily dead grass, in several training ranges. Removing the burnable vegetation helps increase the number of available training days for the Army. The burns will also help reduce the chance of catastrophic fires in the future.

During the burns, which include areas within the 272-acre Three Ranges facility and the 46-acre Fort Richardson Small Arms Complex, smoke lasting several days can be expected. During the burns, firefighting personnel, fire vehicles and other equipment will be in the area.

Smoke from the debris burn will be visible in the Anchorage area but is expected to dissipate quickly.

For more information about the prescribed fire on Fort Richardson, contact Elmendorf Fire Dispatch, 907-552-2801 or the BLM Alaska Fire Service Dispatch in Fairbanks at 907-356-5554.

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"The Alaska Fire Service provides wildland fire management on an interagency basis for land managed or owned by U.S. Interior Department Agencies, Alaska Native Corporations and the Military in Alaska."