



# Wildland Fire Updates

July 11 , 2013  
Last Updated: 9:00 a.m.

Contacts  
Report Fires: 911  
AFS/DOF Public Affairs: (907) 356-5511

*Updates are provided as significant changes in activity occur.*

## 7/11 Stuart Creek 2 Fire

**A community meeting will be held today at the Pleasant Valley Community Center (7234 Anders Avenue) at 6:00 p.m. tonight. The Incident Management Team will provide updates on the firefighting efforts and answer questions regarding fire containment status the Evacuation Advisory.**

**The evacuation advisory is still in effect for mileposts 16-34.** The fire is 25% contained and now is 84,275 acres with no increase in acreage mapped yesterday. The Tanana Fairground is still open to hosting animals for residents within the evacuation watch area. The Chena Hot Springs road and Resort are open. For information on the Chena River State Recreation Area, please contact: (907) 451-2695 or visit [www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/asp/curevnts.htm](http://www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/asp/curevnts.htm).

The fire is still south of the Chena River and east of the Grange Hall Road and west of the South Fork of the Chena River. Crews continue to hold the fire on the Quarry and Brigadier Road on the fire's south flank. There are 796 personnel, 23 hand crews, 30 engines, 12 dozers, 12 water tenders, 7 helicopters, and air tankers are available to be working on the fire.

The fire rate of spread has been temporarily tempered by scattered rain showers over the last few days. Firefighters will continue to provide structure protection in the threatened communities and efforts are aimed at holding the fire south of the Chena River. Significant progress was made in direct hand and dozer line construction yesterday.

A change in the weather pattern with higher temperatures, very low humidity and stronger wind has been forecasted to begin Thursday and will last well into the weekend that will lead to increased fire behavior. The current moderate weather is affording the opportunity to aggressively attack the fire with direct fire line construction.

The fire location in the Military Impact Area poses a risk to firefighters of exposure to dangerous and unexploded ordnances. Construction of fire line by ground personnel within the impact area is prohibited, greatly limiting containment efforts. Lack of road systems in the vicinity of the fire limits access to many areas. Recent rains have made some roads extremely difficult to drive on or are impassable, further hampering access to some portions of the fire. Rain and low cover layer prevented retardant and water dropping yesterday.

Plans for today include continuing direct hand and dozer line construction, securing and mop-up completed containment line, and implement aerial support as the weather allows.

**For tips on how to prepare for a potential evacuation and what to do if you are evacuated**, residents are encouraged to visit the “Ready, Set, Go” website at <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/article/3052/15480/>.

Additional Information on emergency preparedness is available from the **Fairbanks North Star Borough** <http://www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/EmergencyOperations/default.htm> .

### **Smoke:**

All communities near the fire should expect to be impacted by smoke. In the evenings and morning, smoke sinks to the lower elevation communities like North Pole, Fairbanks, and Eielson AFB. For information on smoke conditions, visit this website: <http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/airquality/>. Smoke can pose health concerns for the public. Residents are encouraged to visit the “Protect Yourself from Smoke” website for smoke protection information at <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/Wildfires/>.

It is very important that homeowners take time to create defensible space. The Alaska Fire Wise brochure provides guidelines for emergency preparedness and measures that can be taken to prepare a home and property for wildland fire <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/firewise09.pdf>.

### **7/11 Moon Lake (#401)**

The fire is 17,155 acres. Rain has moderated fire spread and activity. Smoldering and smoke is being observed along flanks and in unburned interior pockets of fuel. Crews will continue structure protection in Mansfield Lake Village and good progress has been made in these efforts. Additional crews were relocated from a nearby fire to assist with direct line construction in the Eagle Trail Fire area. Crews continued to secure edges along the Tanana River and near the Cathedral Bed and Breakfast. Fire continues to be monitored by boat. For more information please visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3459/> .

### **7/11 Skinny’s Road Fire (#388) –The Fire Is 100 Percent Contained and the Parks Highway Is Open**

The 1,806-acre fire is now 100 percent contained. The fire is near Mile 238 of the Parks Highway. The Parks Highway is open and it is safe to travel the road without a pilot car. Personnel have completed to back-haul supplies. They will continue to rehabilitation operations and the team is preparing to turn the fire over to the local unit. Fire updates may be available on <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3456/>.

### **7/11 – Fire Information Update**

A total of **84** fires are active statewide, according to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center. A total of **449** fires have burned **1,043,614** acres so far this year; 7 fires are staffed.

Information on **travel conditions** and fire-related road closures can be found at <http://511.alaska.gov>.

Keep informed of local fire information sources and air quality reports. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has smoke information at <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm> and <http://dec.alaska.gov/air/smokemain.htm>. For “Frequently Asked Questions” visit [http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/smoke\\_qa.htm](http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/smoke_qa.htm).

### **Information Gathering/Additional References**

[www.inciweb.nwcg.gov](http://www.inciweb.nwcg.gov)

[www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)

Alaska Fire Service account: **@BLM\_AFS**

Alaska Division of Forestry account: **@AK\_Forestry**

Bureau of Land Management account: **@BLMAlaska**

National Park Service account: **@AlaskaNPS**

US Fish and Wildlife Service account: **@USFWSAlaska**

Alaska Fire Consortium: **@AKfirescience**

[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

BLM Alaska Fire Service account: **BLM Alaska Fire Service**

Alaska Division of Forestry account: **AK.Forestry**

Bureau of Land Management account: **BLMAlaska**

National Park Service account: **AlaskaNPS**

US Fish and Wildlife Service account: **USFWSAlaska**

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

Alaska Division of Forestry account: **AlaskaDNRDOF**

National Park Service account: **AlaskaNPS**

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/>
- Map of Current Fires: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php>
- Alaska Situation Report: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf>
- National Fire Situation Report: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf>
- Interagency Newsroom (Media Guide): <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/newsroom.php>
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group - Education and Reference Materials:  
<http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php>
- Alaska Fire Consortium: <http://akfireconsortium.uaf.edu>
- Protect your home and property!: <http://firewise.org/> and
- <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/firewise09.pdf>
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns):  
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, <http://511.alaska.gov/>
- BLM Alaska Fire Service: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/afs/>
- Alaska Division of Forestry: <http://forestry.alaska.gov>
- Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): <http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/>
- National Parks Service: <http://www.nps.gov/akso/nature/fire/>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: <http://www.fws.gov/fire>
- USDA Forest Service: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/>
- Anchorage Fire Department: [www.muni.org/fire](http://www.muni.org/fire)
- National Weather Service: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: <http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.html>
- Federal Aviation Administration: <http://www.faa.gov/>

**## AICC Wildland Fire Update is compiled by Alaska Division of Forestry and BLM Alaska Fire Service ##**