



# Wildland Fire Updates

**July 13, 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.*

## **7/13 Stuart Creek 2 Fire (#280)**

The evacuation watch is still in effect for mileposts 16-34 of the Chena Hot Springs Road. The fire is **28% contained** and is **84,275 acres** with no growth in acreage mapped yesterday. Yesterday's warmer and drier weather caused some increase in fire activity, but no major flare-ups occurred.

The Tanana Fairground is still open to hosting animals for residents within the evacuation watch area. The Chena Hot Springs road and the Chena Hot Springs Resort are open. There is a closure in effect for the Chena River State Recreation Area. For more information, please visit: [www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/asp/curevnts.htm](http://www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/asp/curevnts.htm) or contact: (907) 451-2695.

The fire is still south of the Chena River, east of Transmitter Road, and west of the South Fork Chena River. Crews continue to hold the fire on the Quarry and Brigadier Road on the fire's south flank, and have extended the containment north to Moose Creek. There are 773 personnel assigned to the fire, 24 hand crews, 24 engines, 9 dozers, 12 water tenders, and 8 helicopters. Air tankers are available to work on the fire as needed.

Firefighters will continue to provide structure protection in the threatened communities. Isolated flare-ups will continue to occur on the fire, including single and group tree torching. There are extensive areas within the burned area where shallow-rooted spruce trees are toppling, further complicating the fire suppression efforts. Special safety precautions are required in the Military Impact Area due to dangerous and unexploded ordnances.

Plans for today include continuing to work on the additional 41 miles of direct hand and dozer line construction, plus securing and mopping up completed containment line. Today's clear skies will allow air operations to assist ground resources as needed. For more information please visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3468/>.

## **7/13 Moon Lake (#401)**

The fire is 17,155 acres and remains north of the Tanana River. Areas of heavy blowdown are making containment efforts difficult. Crews will continue today with direct line construction and mop up on the east side of the fire, where they are tying the fire to the area burned in the 2010 Eagle Trail Fire. Much of the fire continues to be monitored by air and boat. There are 320 personnel on this fire, including 10 crews and 3 helicopters. A Type 3 Incident Management Team from Indiana is shadowing the Alaska Incident Management Team to learn management techniques. For more information please visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3459/>.

## **7/13 Skinny's Road Fire (#388)**

The 1,806-acre fire is now 100 percent contained. The Oregon Incident Management Team has transitioned the fire to a local Type 3 Incident Management Team for mop up and rehabilitation operations. The remaining resources include 14 personnel and 1 dozer.

## Smoke:

All communities near the fires 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 Firewise 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>.

## 7/13 – Fire Information Update

A total of **75** fires are active statewide, according to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center. A total of **451** fires have burned **1,050,398** acres so far this year; 4 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).

## 7/13 Keeping Campfires Safe This Fire Season

The warmer and drier weather is rapidly drying out mosses, grasses, and other light fuels. These light fuels are the carriers of fire. Fire personnel have suppressed numerous human caused fires across Alaska this fire season. Currently, any spark can cause a fire.

Campers are advised that campfires are dangerous this time of year. Large fires and bonfires, fires that are throwing embers, or any fires that cannot be completely extinguished quickly create a serious risk.

Due to the severe potential for damage to natural resources, property, and human life, penalties may be imposed including fines and possible imprisonment (AS4115.140).

All burning permits remain suspended until further notice due to potential fire severity.

Preventing human-caused wildfires requires awareness and responsibility, and benefits our state resources and the safety of our communities.

**“You are responsible for every fire you start”**

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## 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 ##**