



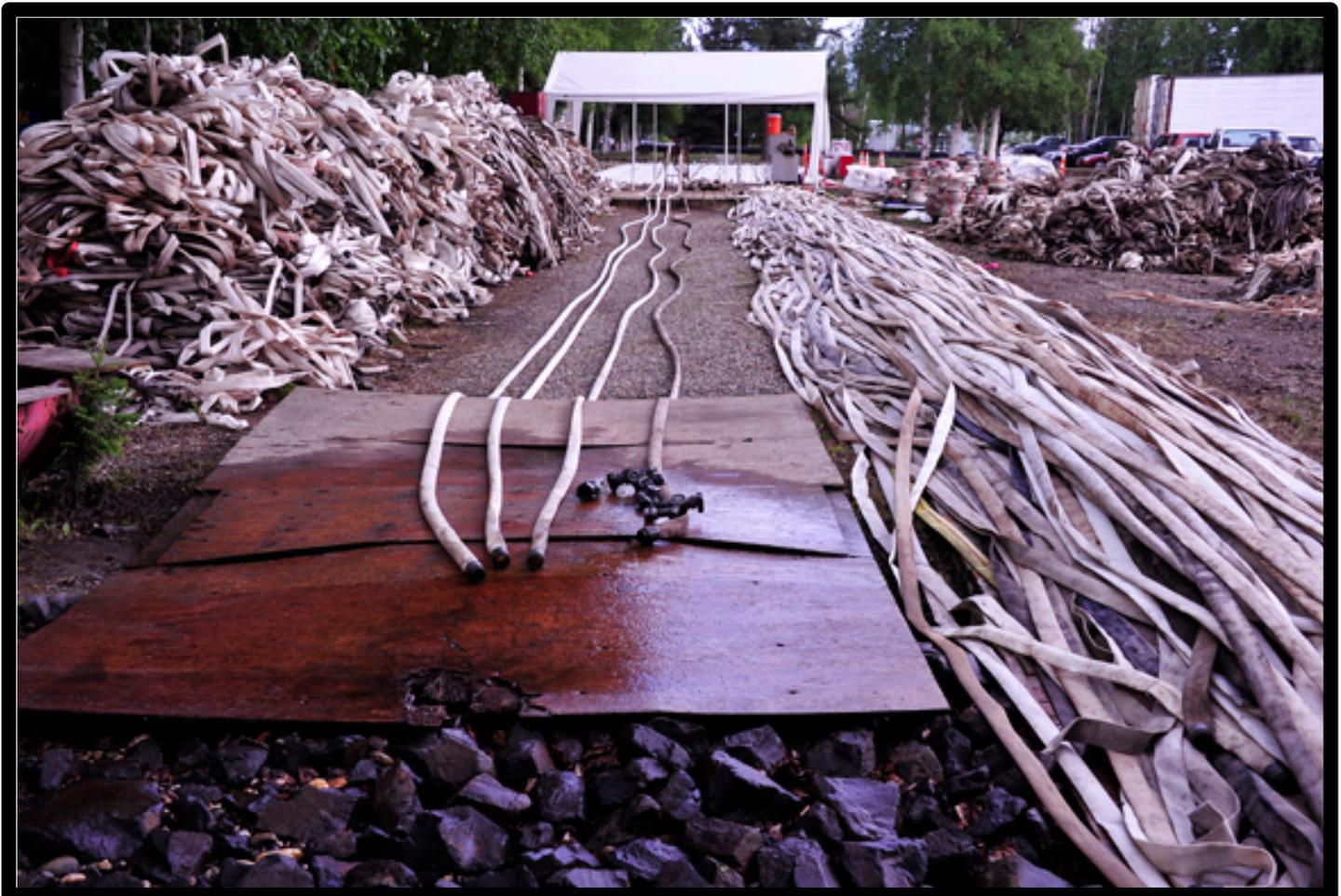
Wildland Fire Updates

July 18, 2013
Last Updated: 12:00

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

Updates are provided as significant changes in activity occur.

Backhaul of hose used during fire suppression at the Fairbanks Division of Forestry Equipment Yard (Photo ALXSw). Hose is washed, cleaned and dried before returning to service.



Statewide Fires

A total of 76 fires are active statewide with 5 fires staffed. 472 fires have burned 1,071,760 acres so far this year. At 7:00 am today, Alaska is at Preparedness Level 2.

Firewise Film Nights now showing in Fairbanks

Firewise Film Night tonight at 6pm, Pleasant Valley Community Center. Local residents in North Pole and Skinny's Halfway Inn on the Parks Highway have enjoyed the Firewise film event. Learn how to prepare for evacuations and simple to do steps to make your home better survive a wildfire in a fun setting.

7/18 Stuart Creek 2 Fire (#280): Alaska IMT makes good progress on fire containment

An Evacuation Watch continues for Chena Hot Springs Road between Mileposts 27 and 39.

Areas of active, uncontrolled fire threaten the watch area. The Chena River State Recreation Area is closed, for information contact: 907- 451-2695. The Chena Hot Springs Road and the Chena Hot Springs Resort remain open.

The Type 2 Alaska IMT (Kurth) is in command of the fire. The fire is 57% contained and is 85,475 acres. 628 are personnel assigned to the fire. The west side of the fire is now fully contained.

The crews successfully contained a 30 acre spot fire on the northeast flank of the fire. A second 100 acre spot fire in the same vicinity is 75% contained and crews are working to build containment lines. Wetting rain is forecast for the area tonight with scattered showers Friday, which is anticipated to further assist in fire containment.

For more information please call: (907) 451-0590 ext. 30260 (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.); follow on Twitter: #StuartCreek2 #AK #AKMID or visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3468/>.

7/18 Moon Lake Fire (#401)

The fire is 17,945 acres and remains north of the Tanana River. The fire is 10% contained. The crews have secured the east flank of the fire. Rappellers will be inserted on the northeast flank to construct helispots and secure line to protect Mansfield Lake Village. The fire will continue to be monitored by air and boat. The fire is managed by a Type 3 Team. There are 130 personnel on this fire, including 7 crews and 2 helicopters. For more information please visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3459/>.

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>.

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.

7/18 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

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

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

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
- 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