



Wildland Fire Updates

August 12, 2013
Last Updated: Noon

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

Updates will be provided as significant changes in activity occur.



Caribou Creek Fire/ Photo by Tim Whitesell

Attention Pilots!

Five Temporary Flight Restrictions are in place for fires burning in Alaska (fires #661, #280, #679, #117, #401); additional TFRs may be added depending on fire activity. Please check for TFRs at <http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.jsp>. Fires that do not have a TFR in place may still have fire aircraft working in the area (including fixed-wing and/or helicopters) that are either fighting fire or providing logistical support. Please stay at least 5 nautical miles away from ALL wildland fires to keep the airspace safe for everyone. (Basic information about the fires that are listed by number can be found at <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/site/report/current.pdf>.)

New Fire

8/12 Caribou Creek Fire #679

The Caribou Creek Fire is burning between Butte Creek and Caribou Creek, north of the Salcha River. The fire started on Aug. 11 and was reported at approximately 100 acres; the cause is under investigation. Three retardant and two water-scooping air tankers dropped retardant and water on the fire to slow its growth on Sunday. The black spruce and dry burning conditions lead to the increase in acres burned, despite the significant response effort. Fast and unpredictable growth did not allow for

safe firefighting from the ground. Instead, personnel and crews assigned will focus efforts on assessing and protecting sites in the area. Last night, the fire was estimated to be around 450 to 500 acres and still growing. A more current acreage estimate will be received today, but smoky conditions may limit mapping ability. The rapid growth of the fire demonstrates how dry the conditions are and the rate at which fires can spread, even under cloudy conditions. The Alaska Interagency Coordination Center released a Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory on August 9 which provides more information about the current fire potential <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/weather/outlooks/FFBehavior.pdf>

8/12 Mississippi Fire #117

The 40,481-acre fire moderated somewhat Sunday and remained confined between the Delta River, Delta Creek and the Tanana River. Firefighters were able to prepare structure defense in threatened areas at the Clear Creek, Whitestone Farms and South Bank homestead areas. The Alaska Type 1 Team, which is managing the fire, will hold a public meeting Monday night at 6 p.m. at the Delta Community Center. Fire officials will present an operational briefing and answer questions from the public. Light westerly winds are expected to cause drifting smoke along the Richardson Highway and the communities of Delta Junction, Big Delta and Fort Greeley. The Richardson Highway remains open.

8/12 Birch Creek Fire #506

Fire managers will hold a public meeting at 6 p.m. tonight behind the museum at Central. They will provide a briefing on the fire and will answer questions. A Type 2 Incident Management Team will assume control of the fire at 10 p.m. this evening. The fire is currently estimated at 24,673 acres. Crews are focusing their efforts on structure protection.

8/12 Stuart Creek 2 Fire #280

With continued warm, dry weather, the Stuart Creek 2 Fire is spreading slowly to the east, within and beyond the military impact area where the fire began. Crews are continuing efforts to protect military assets in the fire and to locate and extinguish hot spots. Meanwhile, the Temporary Flight Restriction over the fire has been reduced slightly to accommodate military exercises and civil air traffic. The new TFR is now south of the Chena Hot Springs Road. A map of the Stuart Creek 2 Fire TFR and other temporary flight restrictions in Alaska can be found at: <http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr2/list.jsp>

8/12 Joint Information Center activated

The Joint Information Center (JIC) is now operating and providing updated information on fires throughout Alaska. The number for fire information is 907-356-5511.

8/12 By the numbers

So far this year 580 fires have burned 1,229,104 acres statewide. Information about individual fires is located at <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf>.

8/12 Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory

A Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory is in effect for the central and eastern Interior. Find more information at: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/weather/outlooks/FFBehavior.pdf>

Fire Information Gathering

- **Moon Lake/ Tetlin Junction Ridge**– <http://inciweb.org/incident/3459/>, 907-699-6411
- **Stuart Creek 2**– <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3468/> , 907-356-5511
- **Mississippi** – <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3618/>

Smoke can pose health concerns for the public. Visit the “Protect Yourself from Smoke” website for information at <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/Wildfires/>. 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_ga.htm.

Information Gathering/Additional References

<http://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

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“You are responsible for every fire you start”