



# Wildland Fire Updates

August 17, 2013  
Last Updated: 11:30 a.m.

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

The Wildland Fire Updates may be updated during the day as significant changes in fire activity occur.



The Birch Creek Fire Medical Unit./Photo by Karl Gaalaas

**There When We Need Them**  
The Medical Unit on a wildland fire cares for those who are injured or sick. Medical support is essential because of the inherent risks associated with wildland firefighting. These dedicated men and women provide stabilization and emergency medical treatment of incident personnel. They also provide occupational health and preventative measures so that those working on wildland fires remain safe and healthy. It's a job that's complicated in remote areas of Alaska, where medical care is often nonexistent or the capabilities of nearby medical facilities may be limited.

### Attention Pilots

Seven Temporary Flight Restrictions are in place for fires burning in Alaska. 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. Please stay at least 5 nautical miles away from ALL wildland fires to keep the airspace safe.

### **8/17 Tetlin Jct. Ridge #414**

The Tetlin Jct. Ridge Fire, 18 miles east of Tok, made a substantial run yesterday as fire behavior picked up rapidly. The fire doubled in size to 20,598 acres and a large column developed. A large fire vortex was observed burning out a one-mile-long drainage in a matter of minutes. Smoky conditions and reduced visibility were reported along the Alaska Highway. Crews were taking action to protect structures along the highway. Additional information on the fire can be found at <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3459/>

### **8/17 Mississippi Fire #117**

The Mississippi Fire, burning ten miles southwest of Delta Junction, has grown to 64,601 acres. The most active area of the fire is along the eastern flank, the northeast corner, and near Rainbow Lake. Continued growth can be expected as weather remains hot and dry. Additional Information about the fire can be found at <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3618/> or by calling\_907-750-1639.



### **8/17 Birch Creek #414**

The Birch Creek Fire, five miles southeast of Circle Hot Springs, remains at 24,923 acres. Crews will continue working to update structure assessments in the surrounding communities. Fire managers are looking at opportunities to conduct a burnout from the contingency line to the fire's perimeter, as weather conditions allow, to further reduce the threat of the fire approaching Circle Hot Springs. A burnout would not be conducted before Sunday. Additional information on the fire can be found at <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3625/>

Clearing line – backbreaking work. Firefighters hard at work on the Birch Creek Fire./Photo by Karl Gaalaas

### **8/17 Tabert Lake #625**

The east side of the 1,200-acre Tabert Lake fire remained relatively inactive Friday. The most active area of the fire is on the northwest. Fire crews and the Lake Louise Volunteer Fire Department completed more than 100 structure assessments yesterday. Fire managers will hold a public meeting today at the Lake Louise Lodge at 1 p.m. today. Additional information on the fire can be found at <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3644/>

### **8/16 Stuart Creek 2 Fire #280**

Better mapping resulted in a slight decrease in acreage of the Stuart Creek 2 fire, 25 miles east of North Pole. The fire is now estimated a 87,046 acres. A helicopter equipped with a bucket worked yesterday to suppress areas of reburn on the northwest corner of the fire. Fire personnel continue to monitor the fire in the military impact area. Additional information on the fire can be found at <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3468/>

### **8/16 Caribou Creek Fire #679**

The 1,436-acre Caribou Creek Fire saw no growth yesterday. The fire is burning between Butte Creek and Caribou Creek north of the Salcha River.

### **8/17 By the numbers...**

So far this year 587 fires have burned 1,273,180 acres statewide. Information about individual fires is located at <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf>.

### **8/17 Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory**

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

### **8/17 By the numbers...**

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### **Fire Photos**

View photos of 2013 Alaska wildland fires at <http://s1312.photobucket.com/user/alaskajic/library/>. Got Alaska fire photos you'd like to share? Send them to [Alaskajic@gmail.com](mailto:Alaskajic@gmail.com)

## **Hunters – Please Be Careful with Your Campfire!**



With the start of hunting season, hunters are urged to be extra careful with campfires and with anything that could start a fire. Extremely warm, dry conditions in the central and eastern Interior and limited firefighting resources make it urgent that those traveling in the backcountry use extra caution with anything that could cause a wildfire.

*You are responsible for every fire you start. Make sure your campfire is dead out!*

## **Additional References**

<http://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: BLMAAlaska  
National Park Service account: Alaska NPS  
U.S. 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*

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