

# Morning Highlights

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Morning Highlights 2006-47

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- Morning Highlights will not be updated on Tuesday, August 15. The BLM-AFS Public Affairs Office will be attending the *Human-Fire Interactions in the Boreal Forest of Interior Alaska* symposium which is being held at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. It is open to the public and begins at 8:30 a.m., in Elvey Auditorium (on West Ridge), and goes until 4:30, with a one-hour lunch break.
- According to a news release from the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC), nearly 50 fire specialists from Australia and New Zealand have come to the U.S. to be assigned to fires throughout the Northwest and Rocky Mountain areas. Primary U.S. firefighting resources have been stretched thin by a long, active fire season, and Canadian resources are unavailable due to a severe fire season in places such as British Columbia. "In an active fire season, these mid-level fireline management roles are most difficult for us to fill," said Tom Frey, International Program Manager at NIFC. "The Australians and New Zealanders come to us trained and highly-qualified. They use a command system very similar to ours, and their training and fitness requirements are much like ours. It's a good fit for everyone."
- Brief Resource Update: The Alaska Type 1 Incident Management Team returned safely to Alaska after being assigned to the Horse Fire then staged in California. On Sunday, five more Emergency Fire Fighter (EFF) crews were sent to the Lower-48.
- No new fires were reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center (AICC) over the weekend. Currently 18 fires are active in Alaska, none are staffed. AICC reports that so far this year 280 fires have burned nearly 269,770 acres statewide.

# ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov>
  - Map of Current Fires: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php>
  - Situation Report: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf>
- National Fire Situation: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf>
- Creating Defensible Space: <http://firewise.org/> and <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry/pdfs/02firewise.pdf>
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, <http://511.alaska.gov>
- Division of Forestry, Burn Permit Info: (907) 451-2626, <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry/fire/>
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns): <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>
- National Parks Service: [www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm](http://www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm)
- National Weather Service: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: <http://www.fws.gov/fire/>
- USDA Forest Service: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/>
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: <http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc>
- Federal Aviation Administration: <http://www.faa.gov>

The Bureau of Land Management Alaska Fire Service provides wildland fire suppression services for all Department of the Interior and Native Corporation lands in Alaska, and assists those entities with other fire management activities including: guidance and interpretation of fire policy for BLM Alaska and management of the BLM Alaska aviation program. In addition to fire suppression missions, AFS also conducts prescribed fires in accordance with various partner agreements.

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