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Morning Highlights 2007-86

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STATE OF ALASKA SENDS FIRE ENGINES TO THE LOWER-48

The State of Alaska Division of Forestry is sending ten fire engines to aid in suppression efforts on wildland fires in the Lower-48. This is the first time that Alaska has sent fire engines to the contiguous states and reflects the severity of the national situation, which is at the highest Preparedness Level, 5. The engines have been ordered through the National Interagency Coordination Center for the Rocky Mountain Region. They will be loaded on flatbed trailers and trucked to Missoula, Montana, where they will be based until no longer needed.

FIRE INFORMATION FOR THE LOWER-48

Initial attack was heavy Monday with 317 new fires reported nationally. Information about the national situation may be found at: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf> or visit a map to see locations of incidents: http://activefiremaps.fs.fed.us/lq_fire2.php

FIRE INFORMATION FOR ALASKA

On Monday, three new lightning-caused fires were reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center. Two of the fires are in monitor status, one is staffed. The Coal River Fire (#534) was reported at 20 acres and 100-percent active, burning in black spruce and tundra. Two smokejumpers responded to protect Native allotments. Aided by CL-215 water-scooping aircraft and Air Attack, the smokejumpers were able to knock down the head of the fire and control the north flank, where the fire was backing towards an allotment.

So far this year, 472 fires have burned 354,970 acres statewide. Including the Coal River Fire, three fires are staffed statewide.

Datkokan Creek (#528):

Eight smokejumpers were released off the fire and the Arctic Village Emergency Firefighter (EFF) crew was hired and transported to the fire. The 80-acre fire is 50-percent contained and an EFF crew from Minto will be hired and transported to the fire today.

Charley River (#409):

National Park Service and Alaska Fire Service personnel are now staffing the 2,459-acre fire. Smokejumpers were demobilized to Eagle and will return to Fairbanks today. Personnel will wait for ideal conditions to conduct burnout operations around a cabin they are protecting.

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Additional References on Page 2

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
- 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>

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