

Morning Highlights

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HIGHLIGHTS

- State and local firefighters responded to the one new, small fire that was reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center (AICC) Tuesday in the Fairbanks Area. Currently 19 fires are active in Alaska. AICC reports that so far this year 266 fires have burned 264,235 acres statewide.
- The 8,500-acre Grass River Fire, burning roughly 30 miles east of Fort Yukon, is the only staffed fire in Alaska. Eight smokejumpers conducted burnout operations on the ground Tuesday, while aerial firing operations occurred along the fire's east and north flanks until there was a wind shift. The ground-operations were 90-percent successful as roughly 80 yards, from the helispot to the Sucker River, is left to finish the burnout. The most critical piece was, however, successfully completed. The aerial operations have made it so that the fire is not expected to get into the Ohtig Lake area, or allotments to the east of the fire. Precipitation has made it so that additional burnout operations will have to be conducted at a later date, if at all. Tentative demobilization is scheduled for this evening.
- Nationally, initial attack was heavy Tuesday. Alaska has sent, and will continue to send, many resources to the Lower 48 to aid in fire suppression efforts. Some of the resources that are already assigned outside of Alaska are: 31 smokejumpers; the Chena, Denali, Midnight Sun, Tazlina and Pioneer Peak Type 1 crews; the Yukon and North Star Type 2 crews; miscellaneous overhead; and the Alaska Type 1 Incident Management Team (IMT). The Alaska IMT is assigned to the Horse Fire in California in the Cleveland National Forest. Several communities are threatened by this fire and are being evacuated. Heavy fuel loading and inaccessible terrain hamper containment efforts. For information about the national situation visit: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf>

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>
- 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>

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.