

The logo for the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center (AICC) features the letters "AICC" in a large, blue, sans-serif font with a slight drop shadow.

Alaska Interagency
Coordination Center



Morning Highlights

May 13, 2008
Morning Highlights 2008-4

Contact:
Public Affairs, 356-5511

WILDLAND FIRE UPDATE

State and local firefighters responded to eight wildland fires Monday, all which occurred in the southern half of the state and are now out or contained. According to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center, based on a 10 year average, 67% of wildland fires in Alaska are human-caused. In other words, this is an average of 341 preventable fires each year.

FIREWISE TIP OF THE DAY

The State of Alaska Wildland Fire Prevention and Preparedness Week will continue until May 18. Governor Palin encourages all citizens to participate in individual efforts and community programs that reduce the risk and threat of wildland fires to homes, property and communities. Think today about how you can plan your spring planting and manage the landscape around your home, extending to a zone of about 30 feet, to reduce fire-prone vegetation that would easily spread an approaching wildland fire. General characteristics of fire-resistant plants include those that grow close to the ground, have low sap or resin content, grow without accumulating dead branches/needles/leaves, are easily maintained and pruned, and are drought tolerant. For more information, refer to the FireWise Alaska brochure at: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/afs/organization/mgmtplan/firewise.php>

PRESCRIBED BURN UPDATES

The Alaska Fire Service, in conjunction with the Army Corps of Engineers, will burn the remote arm of the Chena Lakes Flood Control Project Wednesday if conditions are favorable. The purpose of the burn is to remove grasses and mature willows across roughly 347 acres. The duration of the burn is expected to last one day; however, some residual smoke may be present in the area for several days. The prescribed burn will not be ignited unless winds are forecasted to carry the majority of the smoke away from populated areas.

The Alaska Division of Forestry, in conjunction with the Department of Fish and Game and the Ruffed Grouse Society, will conduct a prescribed burn Wednesday if weather conditions are favorable. The burn will take place at Nenana Ridge, about half-way between Nenana and Fairbanks, to improve grouse habitat in the Tanana Valley State Forest. Approximately 30 acres will be burned. The duration of the burn will be several hours and there may be some residual smoke, but it is not expected to impact any populated areas.

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BURN PERMITS

Burn permits are issued by the Alaska Division of Forestry. To obtain burn permits and information, please contact your local Division of Forestry office:

<i>Fairbanks Area:</i>	907-451-2626
<i>Delta Area:</i>	907-895-2106
<i>Tok Area:</i>	907-883-5134
<i>Mat-Su District:</i>	907-761-6312
<i>Kenai-Kodiak Area:</i>	907-260-4269
<i>Valdez/ Copper River Area:</i>	907-822-5536
<i>Northern Southeast Area (Skagway/ Haines):</i>	907-766-2120

For additional State of Alaska burn permit information, please visit:

<http://forestry.alaska.gov/fire/burnpermits.htm>

**In Anchorage, please contact the Anchorage Fire Department's Wildfire Mitigation Office at 267-5020.*

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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://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/02firewise.pdf>
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, <http://511.alaska.gov/>
Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): <http://forestry.alaska.gov/fire/>
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns): <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm>
- National Parks Service: <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/>
- Anchorage Fire Department: www.muni.org/fire
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: <http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc/>
- Federal Aviation Administration: <http://www.faa.gov/>

AICC Morning Highlights is compiled by Maggie Rogers, Alaska Division of Forestry, and Doug Stockdale, Alaska Fire Service.