



# Morning Highlights

**June 5, 2008**  
**Morning Highlights 2008-21**

**Contact:**  
**Public Affairs, 356-5511**

## **FIRE UPDATE**

Three small, human-caused fires were reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center Wednesday. State firefighters responded to two fires in the Mat-Su Area. The third fire was a wind-driven, escaped debris burn in the village of Nondalton. Locals contained the fire last night and additional firefighting efforts were cancelled. Be sure to use caution and adhere to regulations when burning.

The Three Lakes Fire, located roughly 45 miles SE of Fort Yukon, is now an estimated 80 acres. Activity varies along the fire's perimeter from flames creeping along the ground, to trees are burning (torching). Multiple fire reports have come from commercial and private aircraft because of its column of smoke that reaches about 6,000 feet. The area received no rain on Wednesday and no values are at risk.

So far this year a total of 169 fires have been reported and have burned 1,605 acres statewide.

## **PRESCRIBED BURN PLANNED FOR MILITARY**

The BLM Alaska Fire Service (AFS) plans to conduct a prescribed burn today near Delta Junction on the Donnelly Training Area- Oklahoma Training Range for the US Army Alaska. The project area consists of 48,000 acres. The burn will only take place if weather conditions allow. A Red Flag Warning is in effect for the Delta Junction area, but the Oklahoma Training Range should be sheltered from the winds. If, however, weather conditions are not favorable, the burn will not occur.

Parts of the Oklahoma Training Range were burned in May and this burn will be a continuation. The purpose is to remove brush and cured grass under controlled conditions to help prevent uncontrollable wildland fires from starting as the result of military training activities. Firefighters from AFS will be on-site to execute the burn as well as ensure containment of the fire at designated boundaries. Smoke may be visible near Delta Junction.

## **WEATHER UPDATE**

Yesterday, much of Alaska was cooler and damper and the same conditions are predicted for today for a majority of the state. Wednesday's 243 lightning strikes showed the expanse of the precipitation received as they were spread from north of the Brooks Range south to the Susitna Valley, and from Alaska-Canada border to the west coast. Alaska is expected to have similar weather for the next few days.

Despite the current weather conditions, parts of Alaska still have fire potential. Red Flag Warnings for strong winds are in effect until 10 p.m. for the Deltana and Tanana Flats, and northeastern slopes of the eastern Alaska Range.

## BURN PERMIT INFORMATION

Burn permits are issued by the Alaska Division of Forestry. To obtain burn permits and information about permitted burn restrictions, 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/burn/>

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

## 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>
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group- Education and Reference Materials: <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php>
- Creating Defensible Space: <http://firewise.org/> and <http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/06Firewise.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/burn/>
- 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](http://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.*

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