

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

Alaska Interagency  
Coordination Center



# Morning Highlights

July 9, 2008  
Morning Highlights 2008-46

Contact:  
Public Affairs, 356-5511

## ALASKA FIRE UPDATE

The rain in Alaska may be here, but with rain can come fire. Alaska's burned acres have gone up over 15,000 acres since yesterday due, mainly, to lightening activity.

Nine new fires were reported yesterday, but they are predominately in the Limited Management Options of the Southwest and Upper Yukon Districts. Limited Management Options recognize areas where the cost of suppression may exceed the value of the resources to be protected, the environmental impacts of fire suppression activities may have more negative impacts on the resources than the effects of the fire, or the exclusion of fire may be detrimental to the fire dependent ecosystem. Actions may be taken to keep a fire within the boundary of the Management Option or to protect identified higher value areas/sites, otherwise the fires are not staffed.

The Russian Mountain Fire, burning near Aniak, is at 44 acres and 30% contained. The fire has 24 people on it, including The Denali Crew (Type 2 Initial Attack) and helitack. Yesterday's combination of 2 loads of retardant, helicopter bucket work, showers, and cool evening temperatures should have the fire contained sometime tomorrow.

The Porcupine Ridge Fire, burning 10 miles north/northwest of McGrath, did not receive much precipitation yesterday, but that didn't stop it from being reduced by nearly half yesterday. The fire has 35 people on in it, including The Pioneer Peak Crew (Type 1 Initial Attack) and the Chevak #1 crew (Type 2). The fire is 50% contained and is forecasted to be 100% contained tomorrow at the end of the day.

The Bear Creek fire, near Clear, sized to be 5 acres, was contained and received rain yesterday. The fire has 38 people on it including 2 Initial Attack Squads and the Northstar Crew (Type 2). The fire is estimated to be contained at 2300 this evening and demobbed tomorrow by 1400.

### **GENERAL SUMMARY**

According to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center, so far this year 297 fires have burned 42,796.0 acres statewide. Much of the acres burned have been due to lightning-caused fires that have grown quickly due to wind and weather conditions. Currently 43 fires are active in Alaska, five are staffed.

Thunderstorms and precipitation continue to be in the forecast for large portions of the state, with possible improvement by the weekend.

### **ATTENTION PILOTS!**

Please avoid all fires as firefighters may be taking action. Watch out for the Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR) that are in place near Clear and McGrath. Check NOTAMS for the most current information. See:  
<http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc/>

### **NATIONAL SITUATION**

According to the National Interagency Fire Center, wildland fire activity is light throughout the country. Three new large fires were reported: one each in Texas, Oklahoma, and Utah. One large fire was contained in Utah.

### **ALASKA RESOURCES IN THE L-48**

There are currently over 600 people from State and Federal agencies throughout Alaska are on fire assignments in the Lower-48.

### **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. Note: Fire acreage estimates frequently change due to more accurate mapping and other factors.*

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