



FIRE NEWS

BLM Alaska Fire Service



Release No. AFS050808a
Contact: Doug Stockdale
Phone: 907-356-5511

May 8, 2008

Continued Burning in the Donnelly Training and Fort Wainwright Areas

Ft. Wainwright, AK — The US Army Alaska and the Bureau of Land Management's Alaska Fire Service will continue initiating prescribed burns in the Donnelly Training Area near Delta Junction and on Fort Wainwright.

In the Donnelly Training Area, burning on the Wills Range Complex is scheduled for today. A prescribed burn in the Bolio Lakes area is scheduled for Friday, May 9. Oklahoma Range will be burned on Saturday as weather and military training schedules allow.

On Fort Wainwright, the Small Arms Range is scheduled for burning on Saturday, May 10.

The purpose of the burns is to reduce areas of brush and cured grass to assist in preventing serious wildfires from occurring as a result of military training activities.

Firefighters from the Alaska Fire Service and Fort Wainwright will be on site to execute the burns as well as ensure the containment of the fire at the designated boundaries. Smoke may be visible near Delta Junction as a result of the burning operations.

For more information about prescribed fires, contact the Fire Information Office at the Alaska Fire Service, 907-356-5511 or visit the BLM Alaska Fire Service website:
<http://fire.ak.blm.gov/>

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"The Alaska Fire Service provides wildland fire management on an interagency basis for land managed or owned by U.S. Interior Department Agencies, Alaska Native Corporations and the Military in Alaska."

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FIRE NEWS

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Release No. AFS050608c
Contact: Doug Stockdale
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May 6, 2008

Prescribed Fire Planned for Chena Lakes Area

The BLM Alaska Fire Service (AFS) in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will conduct two prescribed burns within the Chena Lakes Flood Control Project.

The Chena Lakes Flood Control Project is located off the Richardson Highway near Moose Creek, approximately 15 miles from Fairbanks, and is managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Weather conditions permitting, on Friday, May 9, AFS fire personnel will burn 146 acres of grass to remove thatch and help prevent the invasion of woody plants on the floodway, which diverts floodwaters from the Chena River into the Tanana River. A second burn will occur about Tuesday, May 13. It will remove 347 acres of grass and mature willows on a remote arm of the floodway. Smoke plumes and a limited amount of smoke in the air may be expected during the duration of the burn. Fairbanks and surrounding areas are not expected to be impacted by the smoke.

The prescribed burns are designed primarily to reduce the size of shrubby vegetation to better impede the infiltration of impounded water to maintain the silt bed. A secondary goal is to improve habitat for moose and other wildlife by promoting new growth of willows and blueberries. It will also break up the continuity of fuels to reduce the risk of a large wildfire.

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FIRE NEWS

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Release No. AFS050808b
Contact: Doug Stockdale
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May 8, 2008

Fort Richardson Prescribed Burns Continue

Ft. Wainwright, AK — The Bureau of Land Management's Alaska Fire Service, in cooperation with the U.S. Army Alaska, will conduct several additional prescribed burns on Fort Richardson through the end of May, if proper burning conditions exist.

The Three Ranges, Malemute Drop Zone and Small Arms Complex are scheduled for prescribed burns May 10, 11 and 12, respectively. Acreage for each area will vary.

Smoke may be visible on Fort Richardson for several days during the burns.

The primary objective of the prescribed burns is to decrease surface fuels, primarily dead grass, in the training ranges. Prescribed burning helps increase the number of available training days for the Army by decreasing the chance of fire starts during military exercises.

To ask a question, obtain other information or report excessive smoke conditions during the burns, please call: **Elmendorf Fire Dispatch: 907-552-2801**

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