

Alaska Monthly Fire Potential Outlook

Forecast:

- Alaska is passing out of fire season. September typically has little to no fire activity. This year, heavy August rains and an already slow season support little to no fire activity for September through December, which is normal.

Factors:

- The U.S. Drought Monitor shows some drought in the Panhandle, though recent rains have likely tempered that area. Most of Alaska has received more than normal precipitation for the month of August, with heavy rains across much of the Interior. The main exception is in the north, including the North Slope, Brooks Range, the Yukon Flats and the Noatak Valley. The Chisana Valley in the far southeastern Interior also remains dry due to its sheltered location.
- CPC outlook maps are forecasting warmer than normal and wetter than normal for all of Alaska over the next few months. These forecasts seem likely since many different forecast models have been indicating these same trends.
- Given the forecast persistence for the long wave trough over Alaska over the next week and the lack of fires on the ground, we can expect an uneventful exit from fire season.

- ▶ Calculations of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System show surface and duff fuels are damp statewide. The few drier areas identified above have moderated somewhat, so new starts aren't expected due to lack of ignition sources, cool temperatures and high humidities.

