

Alaska Monthly Fire Potential Outlook

Forecast:

- In February and most of March, Alaska will be blanketed with snow and out of fire season. The melting of the snowpack will begin in late March or early April, and will start at lower elevations, increasing fire potential in fine fuels along the road corridors. By May, green up ensures fine fuels become less of a problem, while the boreal spruce forest will dry enough to support more persistent fires on a larger part of the landscape.

Factors:

- The Drought Monitor shows Abnormally Dry conditions persisting over the Southeast Panhandle of Alaska. This is the only area of Alaska highlighted in the Drought Monitor, and compared to previous assessments is less extreme than in recent months
- Alaska is generally snow covered and expecting more snow and below freezing temperatures across most of the burnable landscape until April when the melting of the snow will begin.
- Fuels are frozen across the state, and will not be particularly burnable through the rest of the winter months.

