

Alaska Statewide Management Requirements - 2024

Jurisdictional Agencies have identified the following general constraints and guidelines. Additional constraints applicable to specific incidents are at the discretion of the Jurisdictional Agency and are documented in the Jurisdictional Agency's fire management plans, the incident's decision record, and/or the Delegation of Authority.

- Weigh the cost and environmental impacts of suppression actions against the economic, social, and/or resource values warranting protection. Consider risk to firefighters and the public in all fire management decisions.
- To the extent possible, minimum impact suppression tactics should be used. Firelines will be constructed in a manner that minimizes erosion and will follow natural contours wherever possible. Indirect attack will be used to the extent practical. A suppression repair plan for wildfire suppression activity damage, as approved by the Jurisdictional Agency(ies), must be completed before the final demobilization occurs.
- Locate base camps, spike camps, staging areas, helispots, and other incident support areas in natural clearings if possible and minimize their visible footprint consistent with operational need and safety requirements. Make Jurisdictional Agencies aware of all support areas located on their lands. Keep these areas clean so as not to attract animals and ensure all unused supplies including fuel, oil, food, etc. are removed prior to demobilization of the incident. Exceptions must be explicitly authorized by the Jurisdictional Agency.
- Support areas on private lands or Native Allotments require a land use agreement. No resources (e.g., firewood, etc.) will be removed from private lands or Native Allotments without an approved agreement. Agreements involving Native Allotments must be prepared by the BIA or the local BIA service provider.
- The use of tracked or off-road vehicles requires approval by the Jurisdictional Agency(ies) prior to use.
- When withdrawing water from a fish-bearing stream with portable pumps, scooper aircraft, or aerial buckets; or when crossing it with a vehicle or heavy equipment, comply with the stipulations and notification requirements in the ADF&G statewide *Fish Habitat Permit FH20-SW-0001 Amendment 3*.
- If a game animal is killed in defense of life or property (DLP) on an incident, an Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) DLP report will be filed, and the Jurisdictional Agency(ies) will be notified.
- Protecting and Jurisdictional Agencies will coordinate with State of Alaska land managers if wildland fire or wildland fire management activities have the potential to affect public access to public waters or impact state resources. Protecting and Jurisdictional Agencies will coordinate if wildland fire or wildland fire management activities may result in fire area public access closures or may adversely impact values at risk.

- Take measures to prevent the introduction and spread of terrestrial and aquatic invasive species during fire operations. To the extent possible, ensure that heavy equipment, gear, tools, and footwear are weed free before moving into incident support and fire suppression areas. Waterbodies known to harbor invasive species will not be used as water sources for air or ground-based water delivery equipment unless needed to protect life or property. If used, equipment will be cleaned and sanitized before the next use. Communicate concerns, questions, and needs regarding invasive species to jurisdictional representatives in a timely manner.
- Application of aerial fire retardant near lakes, wetlands, streams, rivers, and sources of human water consumption or areas adjacent to water sources should be avoided. A minimum of 300 feet is identified in the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations* (Red Book). Individual Jurisdictional Agencies may have more restrictive retardant use guidelines.
- Suppression activities, including flight patterns on or near cultural sites or sites designated as “Avoid”, must be coordinated with the Jurisdictional Agency.
- Consult with Jurisdictional Agencies regarding any operational restrictions in designated wilderness areas.
- Completed and planned fuels treatment information provided by the Jurisdictional and/or Protecting Agencies will be consulted when planning incident fireline construction.
- Structure protection (not suppression) activities by wildland firefighters will be limited to exterior efforts, and only when such actions can be accomplished safely and in accordance with agency policy and established wildland fire operations standards.
- Wildland firefighters will not take direct suppression action on vehicle fires. Suppression efforts on vehicle fires by wildland firefighters will be limited to preventing spread into the wildlands and will be undertaken only if responders can avoid being exposed to the smoke from the burning vehicle.
- Wildland firefighters will not take direct action on fires within landfills. Suppression actions will be limited to preventing spread into the wildlands and will be undertaken only if responders can avoid being exposed to the smoke from the landfill. Protecting Agencies will notify the ADEC Solid Waste Program of all fires that escape from landfills or that have a high potential to escape.
- Any discovery by firefighters of potential unexploded ordnance (UXO) or other potentially hazardous materials (e.g., mining sites, etc.) will be immediately reported through proper channels. Firefighters will remain clear of the area until the threat has been evaluated and mitigated.