

# ALASKA KNOWN SITES DATABASE



Documentation and Spatial Data Standard

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## Overview

The **Alaska Known Sites Database (AKSD)** identifies infrastructure, and cultural and natural resource sites throughout Alaska that may be threatened by wildfire. **AKSD** takes advantage of online mapping applications and the ability to use mobile devices as data collection tools, thus AKSD is *dynamic product with real-time updates.*

AKSD is designed to meet the data needs of Protecting Agencies, Jurisdictional Agencies, and Incident Management Teams (IMTs). The attribute data associated with AKSD includes information relevant to site protection plans, information required for ICS 209 forms, and a photo of the site. While the Alaska wildland fire community has invested significant effort in creating a comprehensive dataset, there are known limitations. AKSD users should be aware that not all known sites (aka values-at-risk) information collected by Agencies and other partners are included in AKSD; the database is intended to provide information on known sites located outside of the urban areas and as such, is not a replacement for “structure” data available from the Boroughs.

## Usage

Staff members affiliated with AWFCG organizations and IMTs assigned to Alaska wildland fires are the target users.

## Access to Alaska Known Sites Database

The National Interagency Fire Center ArcGIS Online Site (NIFC-AGOL) houses the master version of AKSD and NIFC-AGOL Groups are used to control editing and viewing rights. Access to the NIFC-AGOL site is available for any partner agency (federal, state, and local) that participates in wildland fire response. Before requesting a NIFC-AGOL account, please refer to the Appendix A: [Alaska Known Sites Point of Contact](#) (AKSD POC) and ask that they determine if an account has already been established. Note that the AKSD POCs can also add users to the appropriate AKSD User Groups.

Users needing to establish a NIFC-AGOL account should visit <http://nifc.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html> and click on the Request a NEW Account button. Once the NIFC-AGOL account is established, contact the appropriate AKSD POC and request access to the dataset.

## Data Management

### Sensitive Data

Data that are deemed “sensitive” by a Jurisdictional Agency can be flagged as such within AKSD. Theoretically, data are only available to Jurisdictional Authorities, Protection Authorities, Agency Administrators, and Designated Data Collectors; however, human error and breaches in security are always a possibility. AWFCG asks Jurisdictional Agencies to balance the risk of restricted data being released to an unintended audience with the risk of the site being negatively impacted by fire if these data are not made through the NIFC-AGOL hosted dataset.

### Data Collection Mechanisms

Data collection and edit of AKSD will primarily be accomplished using Esri Collector for ArcGIS mobile application or by using one of the Web Applications within NIFC-AGOL. Working directly with the hosted feature class is also an option for adding data to the database.

## Editing Rights & Responsibilities Overview

Editing rights are restricted to AWFCG member organization staff, individuals on assignment or detailed to an AWFCG member organization, and Incident Management Teams assigned to Alaska wildland fires. NIFC-AGOL Groups control editing rights. Because of this, editors will be required to have a NIFC-AGOL account. Edits occur at any time during the year and representatives from jurisdictional authorities are responsible for periodically verifying and validating known sites data. The AKSD has editor tracking so there will be a record of who created and updated data points.

GIS Data Managers will have the ability to assign users to the appropriate NIFC-AGOL Group or to multiple Groups (if necessary). In general, there will be four different types of users:

### GIS Data Managers (U1)

GIS Data Managers will have full edit rights, including the ability to delete known site data points. Please note that only GIS Data Managers can delete sites; however, sites can be flagged for deletion by all other editors.

### Jurisdictional Authority (U2)

These users will have the ability to add new data points and update/change all information for existing points.

### Designated Data Collectors (U3)

These users ability to add new data points and update/change most of the information for existing points. Designated Data Collectors will not have the ability to edit the following information: Protection Level, Protection Notes, Jur. Verified By, and Jur. Verified Date. Note that the system will assign a default Protection Level of “Unknown” to all new data points added by Data Collectors.

### Data Viewers (U4)

These users cannot edit data and cannot view any data points designated as “Restricted” and cannot view certain fields.

See [Appendix B](#) for more information regarding the editing and viewing rights associated with the different User Groups.

## Photos

Users can attach images to a Known Site data point. The intent of the photo is to provide site and setting information useful in developing an appropriate protection plan. The ideal photo has the coordinates from where the image was taken and date the image was acquired embedded directly on the image; shows general condition of the site; vegetation composition surrounding the site; and the location of nearby water sources. It is possible to attach multiple images to a point, but that will result in performance degradation and increase the likelihood of encountering problems when synchronizing new data to the master database. **Therefore, editors are strongly encouraged to only attach ONE (1), low or moderate resolution image to a point.**

## Database Structure

Refer to Appendix B: [Alaska Known Sites Database Data Fields](#) and Appendix C: [Alaska Known Sites Database Schema](#) for more information.

## Appendix A: Alaska Known Sites Database Access Points of Contact

Jurisdictional Agency or Protection Agency	Name	Contact Information
Alaska Department of Natural Resources	Dan LaBarre	(907) 451-2615 <a href="mailto:daniel.labarre@alaska.gov">daniel.labarre@alaska.gov</a>
Fairbanks Area (FAS) Delta Area (DAS) Tok Area (TAS) Southwest Area (SWS) Mat-Su (MSS) Copper River Area (CRS)	Tom Ruskowski	(907) 458-6877 <a href="mailto:thomas.ruskowski@alaska.gov">thomas.ruskowski@alaska.gov</a>
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Kristine Kosnik	<a href="mailto:kristine.kosnik@bia.gov">kristine.kosnik@bia.gov</a>
Bureau of Land Management / Alaska Fire Service	Daniel Griggs (GAD, MID)	(907) 356-5582 <a href="mailto:dmgriggs@blm.gov">dmgriggs@blm.gov</a>
Galena Zone (GAD) Military Zone (MID) Tanana Zone (TAD) Upper Yukon Zone (UYD)	Jennifer Jenkins	(907) 356-5587 <a href="mailto:jljenkins@blm.gov">jljenkins@blm.gov</a>
	Melania Stoeber (TAD, UYD)	(907) 356-5578 <a href="mailto:mstoeber@blm.gov">mstoeber@blm.gov</a>
National Park Service	Brian Sorbel	(907) 644-3413 <a href="mailto:brian_sorbel@nps.gov">brian_sorbel@nps.gov</a>
Tanana Chiefs Conference	Will Putnam	<a href="mailto:will.putman@tananachiefs.org">will.putman@tananachiefs.org</a>
US Fish and Wildlife Service	Peter Butteri	(907) 356-5874 <a href="mailto:peter_butteri@fws.gov">peter_butteri@fws.gov</a>
US Forest Service		
Chugach N.F. (CNF) Haines Area (HNS) Tongass N.F. (TNF)	Alaska Fire Service GIS Staff	<a href="mailto:blm_ak_afs_gis@blm.gov">blm_ak_afs_gis@blm.gov</a>
<i>Not specified above</i>	Alaska Fire Service GIS Staff	<a href="mailto:blm_ak_afs_gis@blm.gov">blm_ak_afs_gis@blm.gov</a>

## Appendix B: Alaska Known Sites Database Data Fields

This represents all the data fields available to users. The only required field is “Category”; however data collectors are encouraged to populate additional fields.

Field	Editing Privileges <sup>1</sup>	Viewing Privileges	Description	Purpose of this information	Pull-down menu values (values separated by a semicolon)
Label	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Short descriptive name to identify/label site	Display on maps.	<i>Not applicable</i>
Category <b>(REQUIRED FIELD)</b>	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Identifies the site category.	Query database and symbolize data.	Communications; Camp; Structure; Mining Camp/Equipment; RAWS; Other
Site Notes	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Short description of where the site is, and any information that is not included in the other fields.	Prioritization/incident planning	<i>Not applicable</i>
Restricted Distribution	U1, U2	U1, U2, U3	Describes is the data record is one that is considered sensitive data and access to these data should be restricted to a sub-set of users.	Data management	Yes; No
Protection Level	U1, U2	U1, U2, U3, U4	Describes the Protection Level assigned by the Jurisdictional Agency.	Prioritization	Critical; Full; No Protection; Unknown; Avoid
Protection Notes	U1, U2	U1, U2, U3, U4	Additional information related to the protection level assigned by the Jurisdictional Agency.	Prioritization	<i>Not applicable</i>
ICS209 Type	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Type of structure(s)	Provide data for ICS 209 Block 30.	Single Residence; Multiple Residences; Mixed Commercial and Residential; Nonresidential Commercial Property; Other Minor Structures; Govt.
Main Structure Count	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Number of residences or cabins.	Provide data for ICS 209 Block 30.	<i>Not applicable</i>
Other Structure Count	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Number of outbuildings.	Provide data for ICS 209 Block 30.	<i>Not applicable</i>
Main Structure Condition	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Categorize the condition of the primary structure.	Prioritization	Complete Structure; Under Construction; Walls without Roof; Collapsed; Structure Remnants

<sup>1</sup> Codes for User Groups: U1 = GIS Data Managers; U2 = Jurisdictional Authority; U3 = Designated Data Collector; U4 = Data Viewer

Field	Editing Privileges <sup>1</sup>	Viewing Privileges	Description	Purpose of this information	Pull-down menu values (values separated by a semicolon)
Main Structures Area	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Categorize the size of the main structure.	Prioritization/incident planning	Less than 200 sq ft; Between 200 and 1000 sq ft; Between 1000 and 5000 sq ft; More than 5000 sq ft
Structure Notes	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Any information about the primary structure and outbuildings that is not captured in the other fields.	Prioritization; Incident Planning	<i>Not applicable</i>
Occupancy in Summer	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Categorize the occupancy during the summer months (i.e., fire season).	Prioritization	Never Occupied; Rarely Occupied; Occasionally Occupied; Regularly Occupied
Occupant Capacity	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Categorize the number of occupants the structure was designed to hold.	Prioritization	Zero; Between 1 and 5; Between 5 and 10; Between 10 and 50; Between 50 and 100 ; More than 100
Occupancy Notes	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Any information about occupancy that is not included in the other fields. DO NOT COLLECT CONTACT INFORMATION IN THIS FIELD.	Prioritization	<i>Not applicable</i>
Ground Access	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Describe how the area can be accessed by road or trail.	Incident Planning	Hwy Vehicle; High clearance AWD or ORV; ORV
Air Access	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Describe how the area can be accessed by fixed-wing or rotary aircraft.	Incident Planning	Fixed-Wing and helicopter ; Type 2 Helicopter ; Type 3 Helicopter
Water Access	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Describe how the area can be accessed by boat or float-plane.	Incident Planning	Boat; Float plane
Access Notes	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Any information about access that is not included in the other fields.	Incident Planning	<i>Not applicable</i>
Defensibility	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Estimate the level of effort required to defend the site.	Prioritization	Defendable with little preparation; Defendable with moderate preparation; Defendable with extended preparation; Difficult to protect
Strategy	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Broadly characterize the strategy taken or recommended at a given point in time.	Incident Planning	Plumb and Run; Plumb and Defend
Defensible Space	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Categorize the defensible space within 300 ft of the site.	Incident Planning	Less than 30 ft; Between 30 and 100 ft; More than 100 ft

Field	Editing Privileges <sup>1</sup>	Viewing Privileges	Description	Purpose of this information	Pull-down menu values (values separated by a semicolon)
Primary Veg Type	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Categorize the vegetation within 300 ft of the site.	Incident Planning	Conifer; Hardwood; Conifer and Hardwoods; Shrubs; Grass or Tundra
Pump Site	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Describes whether a pump site is nearby.	Incident Planning	Yes; No
Trunk Line ft	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Length of 1 1/2" hose, measured in ft.	Incident Planning	<i>Not applicable</i>
Lateral Line ft	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Length of 1 " hose, measured in ft.	Incident Planning	<i>Not applicable</i>
Sprinkler Kits	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Number of sprinkler kits needed to defend the site.	Incident Planning	<i>Not applicable</i>
Defensibility Notes	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Any information about defensibility that is not included in the other fields.	Incident Planning	<i>Not applicable</i>
Hazmat Notes	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Describe anything that would be of concern to people protecting this site.	Incident Planning	<i>Not applicable</i>
Safety Zone	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Describes if a safety zone is nearby.	Incident Planning	Yes; No
SafetyZone Notes	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Additional information about the safety zone.	Incident Planning	<i>Not applicable</i>
Jur. Agency ID	U1, U2	U1, U2, U3, U4	References jurisdictional agency databases.	Data management	<i>Not applicable</i>
Prot. Agency ID	U1, U2	U1, U2, U3, U4	References protecting agency databases.	Data management	<i>Not applicable</i>
Protection Area	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Describes the Protection Area, Zone, or Forest.	Data Management	CGF; CRS; DAS; FAS; GAD; HNS; KKS; MID; MSS; SWS; TAD; TAS; TNF; UYD
Site Jurisdiction	U1, U2	U1, U2, U3, U4	Wildland fire jurisdiction, derived from Alaska Wildland Fire Jurisdictions (aka Alaska Land Status).	Incident Planning	BLM; NPS; USFS; USFWS; DOD; OthFed; State; BIA; ANCSA; Tribal; County; City; Private
Assessed or Mapped By	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Identify the user that mapped and assessed the site.	Data Management	<i>Not applicable</i>
Location Collection Method	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Broadly characterize the point collection method.	Data Management	On-site; Aerial Platform; Database; Imagery
Assessed or Mapped Date	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Date the record was mapped or the date the assessment was completed or updated.	Data Management	<i>Not applicable</i>
Data Entry By	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Identify the user entering the data into the database.	Data Management	<i>Not applicable</i>
Data Entry Date	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Date the record was created.	Data Management	<i>Not applicable</i>
Jur Verified By	U1, U2	U1, U2, U3, U4	Identify the individual from the Jurisdictional Agency verifying the record.	Data Management	<i>Not applicable</i>

Field	Editing Privileges <sup>1</sup>	Viewing Privileges	Description	Purpose of this information	Pull-down menu values (values separated by a semicolon)
Jur Verified Date	U1, U2	U1, U2, U3, U4	Date the record was reviewed and verified by Jurisdictional Agency.	Data Management	<i>Not applicable</i>
Flag for Deletion	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Identify records that should be deleted.	Data Management	Yes; No
Delete Notes	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3, U4	Describe why the record should be deleted.	Data Management	<i>Not applicable</i>
Last Name	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3	Last name of site POC.	Incident Planning	<i>Not applicable</i>
First name	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3	Last name of site POC.	Incident Planning	<i>Not applicable</i>
Phone Number	U1, U2, U3	U1, U2, U3	Phone number of site POC.	Incident Planning	<i>Not applicable</i>

## Appendix C: Alaska Known Sites Database Schema

Field Name	Field Alias	Field Description	Field Type	Field Length	Domain Type	Domain Values (values separated by a semicolon)
DescName	Label	Short descriptive name to identify/label site.	Text	50	NA	
SiteCat	Category <b>(REQUIRED FIELD)</b>	Identifies the site category.	Text	25	Coded Values	Communications; Camp; Structure; Mining Camp/Equipment; RAWs; Other
SiteNotes	Site Notes	Short description of where the site is, and any information that is not included in the other fields.	Text	250	NA	
RestrictDist	Restricted Distribution	Describes if the data record is one that is considered sensitive data and should be restricted to use by a subset of users.	Text	5	Coded Values	Yes; No
Protection	Protection Level	Describes the Protection Level assigned by the Jurisdictional Agency.	Text	25	Coded Values	Critical; Full; No Protection; Unknown; Avoid
ProtNotes	Protection Notes	Additional information related to the protection level assigned by the Jurisdictional Agency.	Text	250	NA	
ICS209Type	ICS209 Type	Type of structure(s)	Text	50	Coded Values	Single Residence; Multiple Residences; Mixed Commercial and Residential; Nonresidential Commercial Property; Other Minor Structures; Govt.
MainStructs	Main Structure Count	Number of residences/cabins.	Short		NA	
OthrStructs	Other Structure Count	Number of outbuildings.	Short		NA	
StructCondition	Main Structure Condition	Categorize the condition of the primary structure.	Text	50	Coded Values	Complete Structure; Under Construction; Walls without Roof; Collapsed; Structure Remnants
MainArea	Main Structures Area	Categorize the size of the main structure.	Text	25	Coded Values	Less than 200 sq ft; Between 200 and 1000 sq ft; Between 1000 and 5000 sq ft; More than 5000 sq ft
StructNotes	Structure Notes	Any information about the primary structure and outbuildings that is not captured in the other fields.	Text	250	NA	
Occupancy	Occupancy in Summer	Categorize the occupancy during the summer months (i.e., fire season).	Text	50	Coded Values	Never Occupied; Rarely Occupied; Occasionally Occupied; Regularly Occupied

Field Name	Field Alias	Field Description	Field Type	Field Length	Domain Type	Domain Values (values separated by a semicolon)
Capacity	Occupant Capacity	Categorize the number of occupants the structure was designed to hold.	Text	10	Range	Zero; Between 1 and 5; Between 5 and 10; Between 10 and 50; Between 50 and 100; More than 100
Occ_Notes	Occupancy Notes	Any information about occupancy that is not included in the other fields.	Text	250	NA	
GroundAccess	Ground Access	Describe how the area can be accessed by road or trail.	Text	50	Coded Values	Hwy Vehicle; High clearance AWD or ORV; ORV
AirAccess	Air Access	Describe how the area can be accessed by fixed-wing or rotary aircraft.	Text	50	Coded Values	Fixed-Wing and helicopter; Type 2 Helicopter; Type 3 Helicopter
WaterAccess	Water Access	Describe how the area can be accessed by boat or float-plane.	Text	25	Coded Values	Boat; Float plane
AccessNotes	Access Notes	Any information about access that is not included in the other fields.	Text	250	NA	
DefEffort	Defensibility	Estimate the level of effort required to defend the site.	Text	50	Coded Values	Defendable with little preparation; Defendable with moderate preparation; Defendable with extended preparation; Difficult to protect
DefStrategy	Strategy	Broadly characterize the strategy taken or recommended at a given point in time.	Text	50	Coded Values	Plumb and Run; Plumb and Defend
DefSpace	Defensible Space	Categorize the defensible space within 300 ft of the site.	Text	25	Coded Values	Less than 30 ft; Between 30 and 100 ft; More than 100 ft
VegType	Primary Veg Type	Categorize the vegetation within 300 ft of the site.	Text	50	Coded Values	Conifer; Hardwood; Conifer and Hardwoods; Shrubs; Grass or Tundra
PumpSite	Pump Site	Describes whether a pump site is nearby.	Text	5	Coded Values	Yes; No
TrunkLine	Trunk Line ft	Length of 1 1/2" hose, measured in ft.	Long		NA	
LatLine	Lateral Line ft	Length of 1" hose, measured in ft.	Long			
SprinkKits	Sprinkler Kits	Number of sprinkler kits needed to defend the site.	Short		NA	
DefNotes	Defensibility Notes	Any information about defensibility that is not included in the other fields.	Text	250	NA	
Hazmat	Hazmat Notes	Describe anything that would be of concern to people protecting this site.	Text	250	NA	
SafetyZone	Safety Zone	Describes if a safety zone is nearby.	Text	5	Coded Values	Yes; No

Field Name	Field Alias	Field Description	Field Type	Field Length	Domain Type	Domain Values (values separated by a semicolon)
SafetyNotes	SafetyZone Notes	Additional information about the safety zone.	Text	250	NA	
JurID	Jur. Agency ID	References jurisdictional agency databases.	Text	100	NA	
ProtID	Prot. Agency ID	References protecting agency databases.	Text	100	NA	
ProtArea	Protection Area	Describes the Protection Area, Zone, or Forest.	Text	4	Coded Values	CGF; CRS; DAS; FAS; GAD; HNS; KKS; MID; MSS; SWS; TAD; TAS; TNF; UYD
SiteJurs	Site Jurisdiction	Wildland fire jurisdiction, derived from Alaska Wildland Fire Jurisdictions (aka Alaska Land Status).	Text	20	Coded Values	BLM; NPS; USFS; USFWS; DOD; OthFed; State; BIA; ANCSA; Tribal; County; City; Private
AssessedBy	Assessed or Mapped By	Identify the user that mapped and assessed the site.	Text	50	NA	
ColMethod	Location Collection Method	Broadly characterize the point collection method. This can provide insight as to why points may be offset from the structure.	Text	25	Coded Values	On-site; Aerial Platform; Database; Imagery
AssessDate	Assessed or Mapped Date	Date the record was mapped or the date the assessment was completed or updated.	Date		NA	
EnteredBy	Data Entry By	Identify the user entering the data into the database.	Text	50	NA	
EntryDate	Data Entry Date	Date the record was created.	Date		NA	
VerifiedBy	Jur Verified By	Identify the individual from the Jurisdictional Agency verifying the record.	Text	50	NA	
VerifyDate	Jur Verified Date	Date the record was reviewed and verified by Jurisdictional Agency.	Date		NA	
DeleteFlag	Flag for Deletion	Identify records that should be deleted.	Text	5	Coded Values	Yes; No
DeleteNotes	Delete Notes	Describe why the record should be deleted.	Text	250	NA	
LastName	Last Name	Last name of site POC	Text	50	NA	
FirstName	First Name	First name of site POC.	Text	50	NA	
PhoneNum	Phone Number	Phone number of site POC	Text	20	NA	
GlobalID	GlobalID	Unique Identifier.	GUID		NA	