



Coffee Brief

Date: 8.3.2023

Preparedness Levels & Alaska Fire Activity

Alaska	3
National	3

<p>Light Initial Attack Activity</p> <p>New Fires and Acres: 5 fires for 16 acres</p>

There are currently 12 staffed with 456 personnel. Yesterday's large fire growth was ~3,450 acres.

Sources: National and AICC Situation Report, AICC Aircraft Logs

Resources

Aviation within Alaska	Total
Air Tactical	2
Large Air Tankers (LATs)	2
FireBosses	4
Scoopers (CL4515Ts)	2
Utility	4
Helicopter, Type 1	1
Helicopter, Type 2	8
Helicopter, Type 3 Standard	3
UAR	1
Total Aircraft	27

Crews Committed within Alaska	
Type2IA	1
Type 1	4
Type 2	9
Type 1 Module	
Type 2 Module	
Suppression Module	3
Total Crews	17

Incident Mangement Teams in Alaska	
IMTC	
IMT 1	
IMT2	1
IMT3	
Total IMTs	1

AVIATION ACTIVITY YESTERDAY

#257/Anderson Complex: Sent BD-905, T-542, T-544 later in the day, they were diverted to #325 which is located within the TFR for the Complex and then diverted to #296.

#296(FAS): BD-135, T-542, T-544. Rolled AA-0AK and FB-214/216/218 later in the day, fire was too active for FB's to be effective, sent them home and re-launched BD/Tankers.

#201/290(FAS): AA-7MZ flew for eyes in the sky for burn ops, got out there and requested scoopers, rolled S-261/262.

#191(DAS): AA-7MZ, FB-214/216/218, S-261/262 all flew this fire later in the evening.

AVIATION

- J-90 and BD-135 are both out of service.
- FB216/218 currently have level 2 pilot as relief through Friday- can only operate with one other tactical aircraft unless they are accompanied by some form of aerial supervision.
- Orders placed to Alberta for Elektra Tanker Group and to Saskatchewan for 1 BD & 2 CV580A's – possible arrival date 8/4

AIRSPACE/TFRs

- #201(FAS): 3/7011.
- #257(FAS): 3/5014.
- #296(FAS): 3/6714.

SMOKEJUMPERS

- Anticipated smokejumpers available: 11
- Demobilizations Yesterday: #298(UYD): 2

CREWS

- 11 pending crew requests

OVERHEAD/TEAMS

- 60 pending overhead requests

Source: IROC Reports, [National Smokejumper Status Report](#), AK Incident Aircraft Tracking Spreadsheet & AICC Documentation

Yesterday's Weather Summary

The strong ridge setting up over mainland Alaska is bringing hot and dry weather with it. Temperatures are rising into the mid and upper 80s towards the end of the week over much of the Interior and parts of South Central. 90 degrees is in the forecast for some areas by the weekend. Fewer thunderstorms are expected than last week. Today's footprint will be limited to the ALCAN border and mainly Copper River

Basin and the Talkeetna Mountains. There is also a chance that the Susitna Valley and Kenai Peninsula may see some storms over higher terrain.

The West Coast will also see some warming and drying on Thursday and Friday, then the next storm heads in from the Bering for the weekend. This strong low will also setup a strong and long-lasting Chinook pattern for the weekend, with gusty southerly winds in the eastern Interior affecting many of the existing fires, and bringing adiabatic warming to the Tanana Valley.

The long-range models gradually shift the ridge out of the picture by early next week, but the timing on ridge break down is a notorious challenge. In the meantime, the fire season in Alaska will stay very active.

Source: [Alaska 7-Day Outlook](#)

Yesterday's Fuels/Fire Potential

As this heat wave progresses, fuel conditions are moderately dry at the surface in most areas. Much drier conditions exist on the western side of the Yukon Flats, throughout the Tanana Valley, and parts of Copper River Basin. However, fine fuels are quickly drying in other parts of the Interior, and by Thursday much of the western Interior will also have burnable surface fuels.

Indices indicate that duff layers are now significantly dry in parts of the eastern and central Interior, leading to greater resistance to control. These are also the areas where most ignitions have occurred, and fire activity is focused. We have been seeing steadily increasing fire activity in the last two days, as well as more lightning holdovers from several last week.

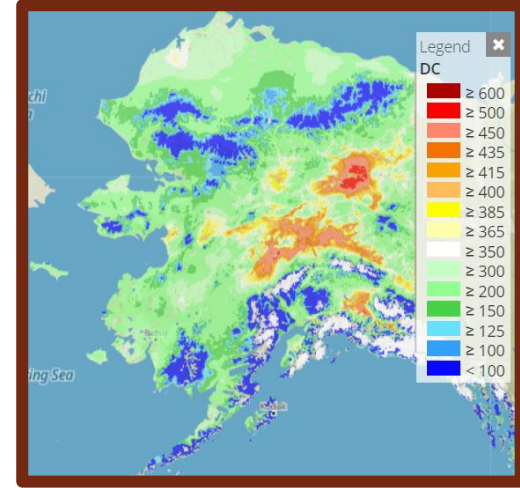
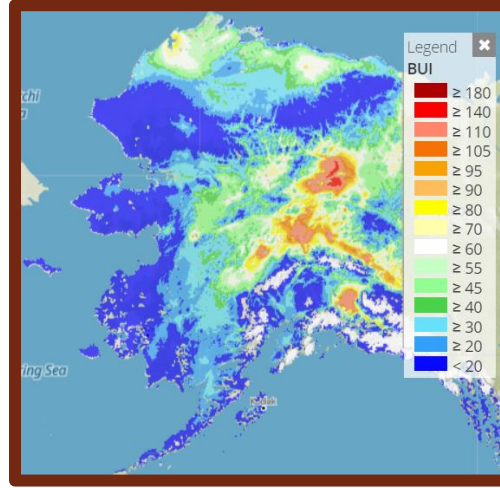
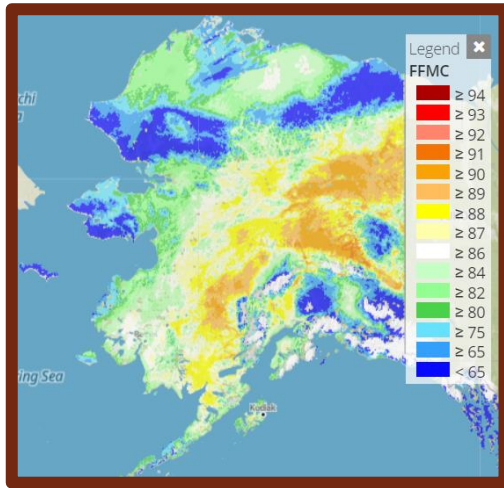
With Chinook winds in the forecast beginning this weekend, existing fires north of the Alaska Range will become very difficult to manage as spread potential will be Very High. In addition, tight resources will make IA and established management very difficult into next week.

Source: [Alaska 7-Day Outlook](#)

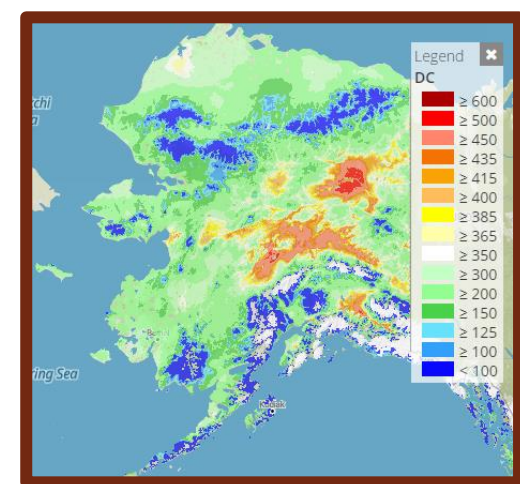
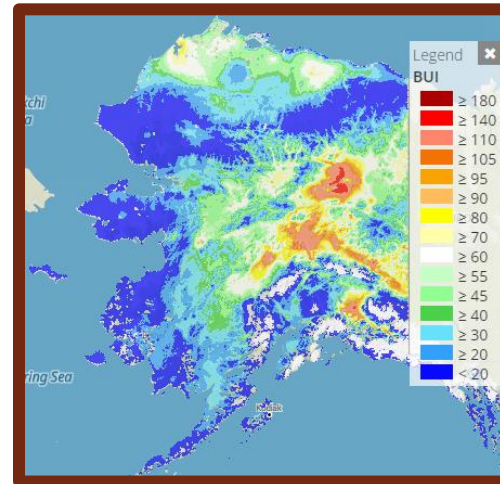
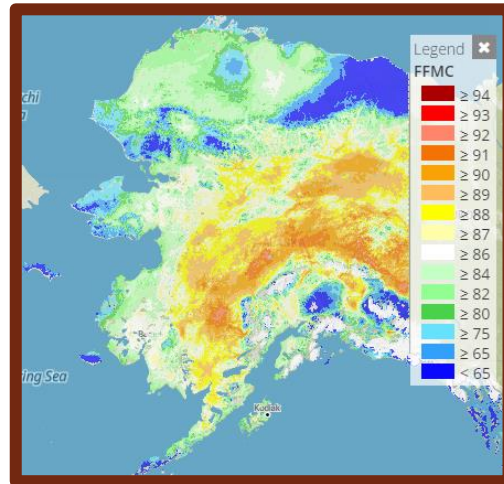
Fuels Status [Alaska Fire and Fuels Map](#)

There are currently no Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisories out for Alaska

YESTERDAY'S FORECAST



TODAY'S FORECAST



When encountering a mismatch between a point value based on actual weather observations and the background grid, please discount the grid and go with the points.

For additional fuels information visit <https://akff.mesowest.org/>

Sources: AICC Predictive Services – Fuels/Fire Danger web page, Alaska Fire & Fuels web page

The Coffee Brief is typically posted at PLs 4 and 5 only.

