



Coffee Brief

Date: June 10, 2022

Preparedness Levels & Alaska Fire Activity

Alaska 3 National 2

Light Initial Attack Activity New Fires and Acres: 9 fires 762 acres + 91,372 large fire growth

Sources: National and AICC Situation Report

Resources

4 Jump ships with ~12 SMJ's as of 1500 Currently have 4 SMJ booster orders filled ~ 60 SMJ's committed

2 Air Attack, 1 ASM, 1 Lead Plane, 2 Large Air tankers, 1 additional Air tanker has been ordered, 6 Fire Bosses. (BC Group inbound – Birddog + 6 Fire Bosses eta 6/11 ordered on the Northwest Compact)

State Forestry has augmented their fire staff with ~30+ overhead through the Northwest Compact.

Currently have ordered 3 T-2 Helicopters and 1 T-3 Helicopter with modules coming from the L-48. State Forestry has hired 5 CWN helicopters throughout Alaska to support their fires.

Arriving Crews: 5 T-1 crews arriving FBK 6/12/2022 and additional order for 5 T-1 or T2IA has been placed for 6/15 arrival into FBK.

IMT2 Butteri in briefed for Fire 160 East Fork - Structure protection and indirect lines to protect St. Mary's continue. Strong north and northeast winds continue to drive the fire rapidly towards values at risk. Very low relative humidity continues and combined with very dry, and fire receptive fuels is causing rapid fire spread. This weather pattern will continue for at least the next 72 hours

Source: IROC Reports

Weather Summary

Wetting rains will be most widespread in Southeast Alaska today, with showers over Copper River Basin and South-Central Alaska. A few wet thunderstorms will develop again this afternoon in South Central and Southwest, though they will be more isolated than yesterday.

Red flag warnings are in effect for the Middle Kuskokwim Valley, Lower Yukon Valley, and Y-K Delta for hot, dry, and windy conditions. Much of the rest of the western and central Interior are near red flag criteria as strong north to northeast winds are in the forecast and humidity's will continue to be below 25 percent. The missing element is temperature: temps have dropped into the 50s and 60s in the east, and western Alaska will now follow suit as low pressure drops down from the north. However, with the strong winds and low humidity's, the cooler temperatures provide little relief for the threat of wind-driven fires.

With the low dropping into the west coast and bringing cooler temperatures and a damper air mass this weekend, the question is whether it will bring enough moisture to make an impact on the fires burning in Southwest and moderate the fuels there. At this time, it's difficult to estimate how much precipitation will fall and whether it will impact the areas with extensive fire activity; it looks like significant precipitation will be limited. Meanwhile, high pressure builds into the east, which will bring warmer temperatures and a dry pattern for central and eastern Alaska early next week.

Source: Alaska 7-Day Outlook

Fuels/Fire Potential

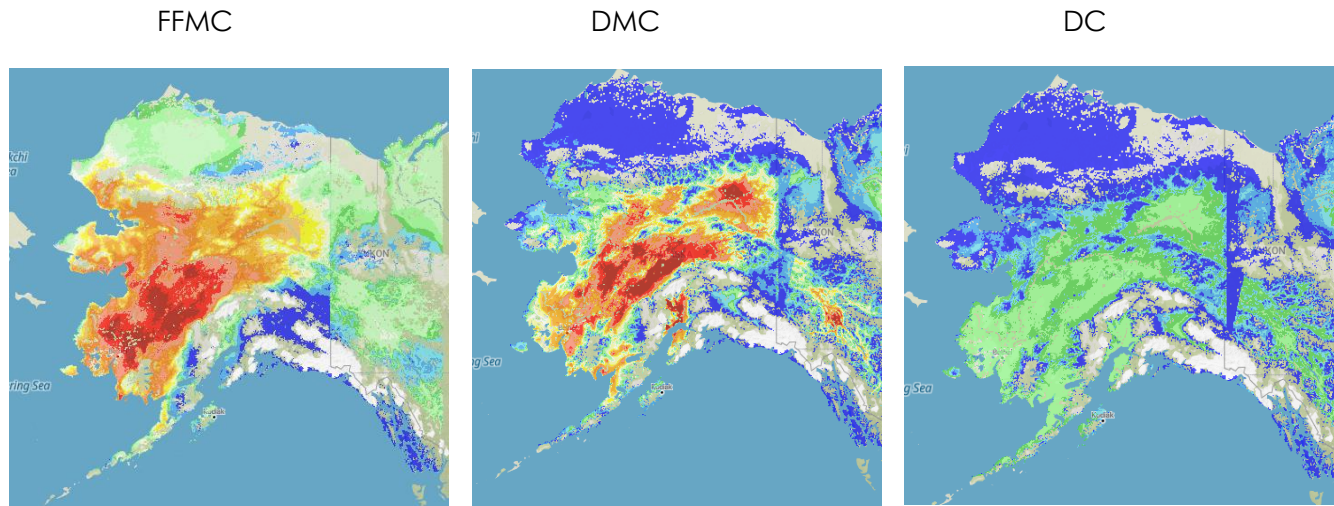
Though recent rains have moderated the fine fuels from the Panhandle through Copper River Basin and into South Central Alaska, some areas have received little rain and are showing spots of drier fine fuels. In particular, fuels in South Central have experienced more severe drying and received the lightest and spottiest rainfall from this event.

The most concerning fuels are in the central and western Interior and down to Southwest. Surface fuels are extremely dry, and strong, gusty winds are boosting the Initial Spread Index to Extreme values, enhancing the threat for wind-driven fires.

The deeper duff layers continue to warm and dry in the Interior, and many areas now have values of the Build-up Index (BUI) above the critical threshold of 80, indicating that the deeper layers will contribute to wildfire behavior, and some fires may be increasingly resistant to control. Fuels that are normally barriers to fire spread may not slow fire spread due to this long-term drying trend.

Source: Alaska 7-Day Outlook

A [Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory](#) ... for Alaska.



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

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

Critical Needs

Logistical aircraft/Crews/Plans positions, Smokejumpers/Dispatcher positions

Source: AMAC Incident Prioritization List, ICS-209s

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

