

2010 Alaska Fire Statistics



Wildland Fire Summary and Statistics Annual Report - AICC

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2010 Fire Season

The first fire of the 2010 fire season started on March 24th, in the Mat-Su Area. By the end of April there had been 48 fires. Since records of fires by month specifically started being kept in 1996 at AICC, that number has only been surpassed twice, in 1997, with 67 fires by the end of April, and in 1998 when there had been 97 fires by that time.

There was one “holdover” fire reported in April, a product of fires that retained enough heat over the winter to rekindle in the spring. Five more were reported in May, and three more in July. One of these, the Toklat fire started as a holdover from 2009, burned together with a lightning caused fire, and consumed over 188,000 acres by early June. Two fires from 2009, the Telida fire and the Wood River fire, had multiple holdovers.

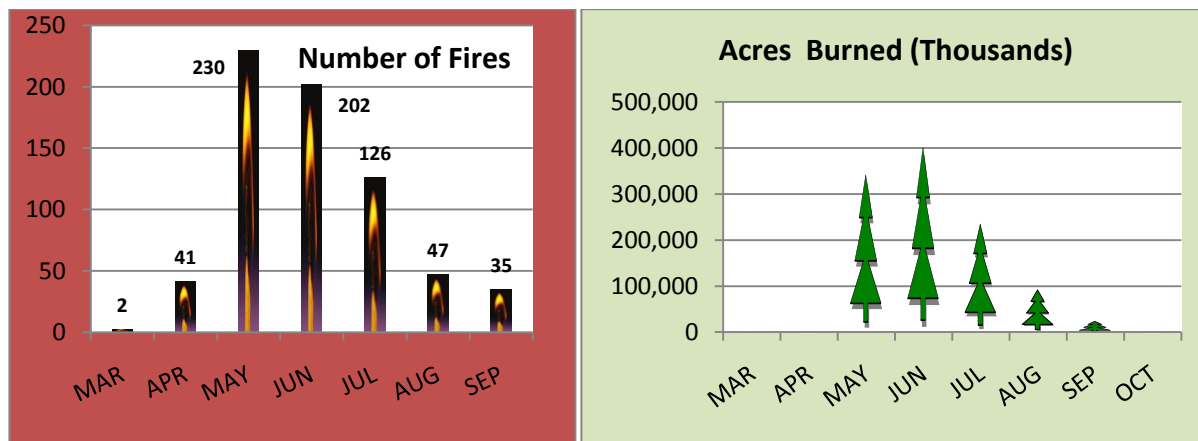
May proved to be the busiest month with a total of 229 fires. That is above the 10 year average of 141, but was less than 1996 with 326, and 2002 with 259 fires. The most acres burned in one day occurred on May 30th (93,052.0 acres)

However, the most acreage burned in 2010 occurred in June (411,745 acres) and the most fires reported for one day was on June 23rd (33).

The Anchorage Fire Department reported 51 fires for a total of 5.5 acres during the fire season, and 28 VFD fires throughout the state were reported for a total of 6.8 acres.

There were a total of 688 wild land fires in 2010, with a total of 1,125,419 acres burned.

Nearly one thousand residences were threatened by wild land fires this season, and five were lost. Approximately one thousand nine hundred outbuildings were threatened, and seven were lost. Sixty seven commercial enterprises were threatened, and 1 was lost.



Two Type 2 Teams were assigned to Alaska in 2010, one for the Eagle Trail fire, and one for the Delta Complex. A third Type 2 Team was ordered and prepositioned, but did not get assigned to a fire.

Twenty five T1 IHC crews were ordered from NICC and assigned in late May. The Alaska Type 1, Type 2 and Type 2IA Agency Crews had 62 assignments distributed among them and all 63 of the T2 EFF crews had at least one assignment.

There were 3461 overhead orders filled for Alaska fires and related support this year.

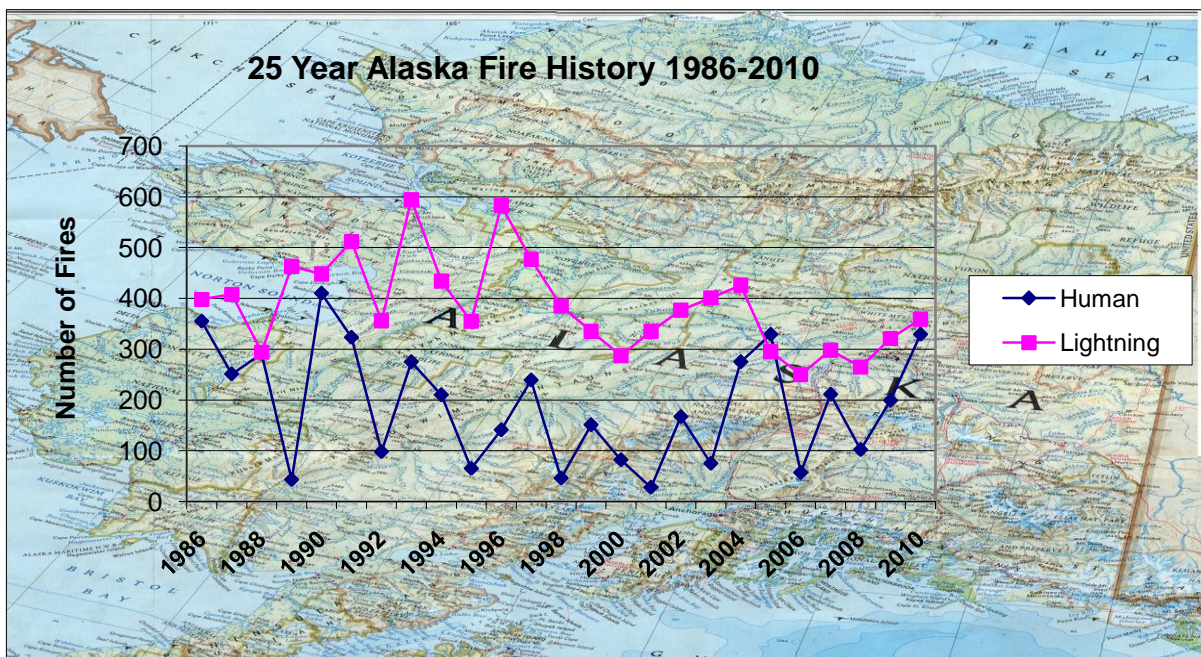
218 requests for Smokejumpers were filled and the last of the boosters left Alaska July 27.

Canadian tactical aircraft support was requested through the Compact Agreement with the State Division of Forestry. Resources from the Yukon Territory arrived on May 26th to assist on the Eagle Trail fire while a second Tanker Group was on alert June 26th through July 3rd when all Alaska resources were working the Pat Creek and Fiasco Lake fires. British Columbia provided their Rapattack for initial attack support from May 29th through June 11th, and their Electra Tanker Group from May 28th through June 7th. Saskatchewan and Alberta each sent Skimmer Modules consisting of two CL-215s and Bird Dogs from May 29th through June 11th and from July 1st through July 18th respectively.

From April 1st through July 31st Alaska was at PL1 a total of 63 days, at PL 2 for 31 days, at PL3 for 17 days and between May 30th and June 9th at PL4. The Alaska Multi Agency Coordination Group was convened June 1st and continued to meet through June 11th.

On July 10th the normal conversion of modified suppression land status to limited suppression took effect.

316 Alaska overhead (not including crewmembers) filled orders from the Lower 48, including 74 orders for the Gulf oil spill response. The first resources to travel to the Lower 48 were aviation related overhead leaving in mid July, and T1 crews leaving late in July.





Eagle Trail/ Photo courtesy DOF

Eagle Trail

Late in the afternoon of May 26th, an aircraft pilot reported a fire burning in black spruce near the Alaska Highway. The fire was reported to 100% active, 30 acres in size with rank 5 head fire. The fire was being pushed by southeast winds in the direction of the community of Tanacross.

Tok Area Forestry dispatched engines, requested engines and a helicopter respond from Delta Area, and requested smokejumpers, air attack and retardant from AICC.

Within the hour tactical resources had begun to arrive and the fire had grown to 200 acres. Additional water tankers and a TFR were requested. Approximately 40 minutes later the fire was 1700 acres, had spotted over the road and was burning toward two homes.

By 1900 evacuation of Tanacross was in progress.

Canadian resources were requested to assist, additional engines were requested from Delta Area Forestry and Copper River Area Forestry, and a Type 2 Team was ordered.

The following day the fire made a significant run to the north spotting across the Tanana River. Traffic along the Alaska Highway was temporarily stopped due to poor visibility from smoke, and fire. The village of Tanacross and the Eagle Subdivision were advised to evacuate. Ground and aerial resources focused on structure protection. The Tok School was established as both the evacuation point and the Incident Command Post for the incident.

On May 29th residents were allowed to return to their homes in the Eagle Subdivision and Tanacross. Structures were being secured in the Crystal Springs area, and work was continuing on constructing and securing line as well as on keeping the Alaska Highway open.

With indices registering at extreme levels, temperatures in the 70 and 80 degree range, and relative humidity in the teens and twenties, the fire had grown to 8,640 acres.

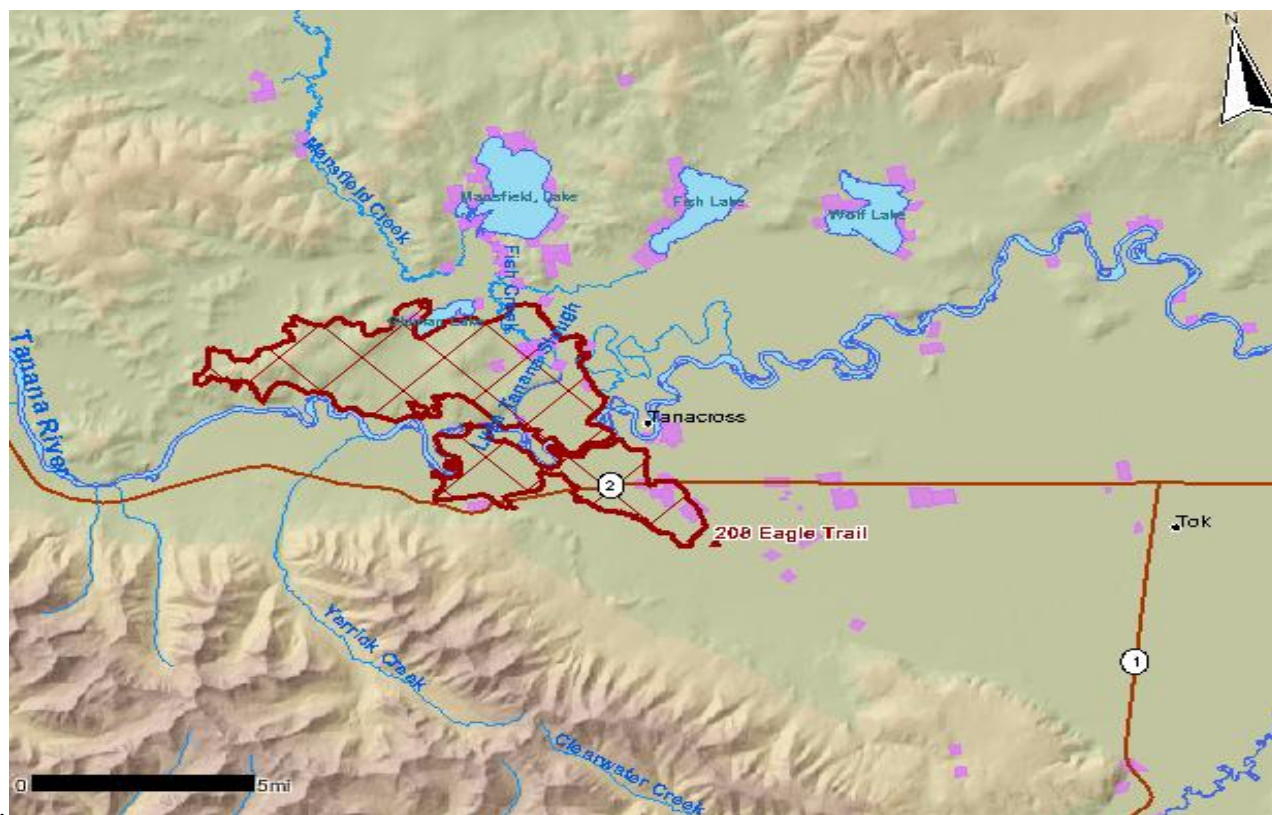
By the end of the month the fire was estimated to be 13,242 acres, still exhibiting rank 5 and 6 behavior, spotting, running and causing traffic delays along the Alaska Highway.

On June 1st control lines were holding in spite of a significant increase in fire behavior. Burnout operations were delayed due to erratic winds. The fire gained over 1000 acres, and continued to do so for the next few days.

The weather finally moderated on June 4th. Cooler temperatures, higher relative humidity and light precipitation slowed fire activity and allowed fire personnel to make good progress on control lines, structure assessment and protection, and mop up. The fire was 17,857 acres, 21% contained, and had 698 personnel assigned to it. The highest number of personnel was reached a few days later (797), including 32 crews assigned between May 26th and June 20th.

On June 9th, late in the afternoon, a large cell moved in from Canada bringing ½ inch of rain, hail, and high winds. The following day the fire was estimated to be over 50% contained. At that point fire behavior was minimal, but steep and varied terrain, a meandering perimeter, and heavy fuels still required extensive crew work.

Eleven days later the Alaska Type 2 Team and all resources had been demobilized, and the closeout with Tok Area Forestry had been completed. Transfer of command back to the Area office occurred on June 21st. The final fire size was 17,934 acres 27 days after it started, and the fire was monitored through the rest of the season.





Louie Creek/ photo by Dirk Collins courtesy GAD

Louie Creek

A Huslia resident reported this fire to the Galena Zone dispatch office on June 23rd. T-264 responded and personnel relayed the fire was approximately 200 acres. The fire plotted in a modified management option area, but due to limited tactical resources no further action was taken.

The following day smokejumpers were deployed and two crews were transported to the fire and they started constructing line. The fire was running, torching and spotting up to 500 feet. Two air tankers and two scoopers worked the fire which had grown to 800 acres, was threatening numerous allotments and was within 10 miles of the village of Huslia.

On June 25th the fire made significant runs to the east. Two additional crews arrived as well as more smokejumpers. Air tankers worked the fire and personnel completed one and one half miles of line. In spite of these efforts the fire more than doubled in size.

The fire continued to exhibit group torching, running and spotting up to 1000 feet on the 26th. The fire more than doubled in size for a second day in a row, but resources continued to hold and extend the northern perimeter using direct and indirect tactics.

Fire behavior did not moderate until the end of the month at which time portions of the fire reached old burn areas.

The rest of the fire however, continued extreme behavior facilitated by the hot and dry weather and erratic winds. It had grown to 8900 acres, had 185 personnel assigned, and was within 8 miles of Huslia. The fire was still threatening numerous allotments, structures and communication facilities. Personnel had completed 50% of a difficult burn out, while allotment and structure preparation continued.

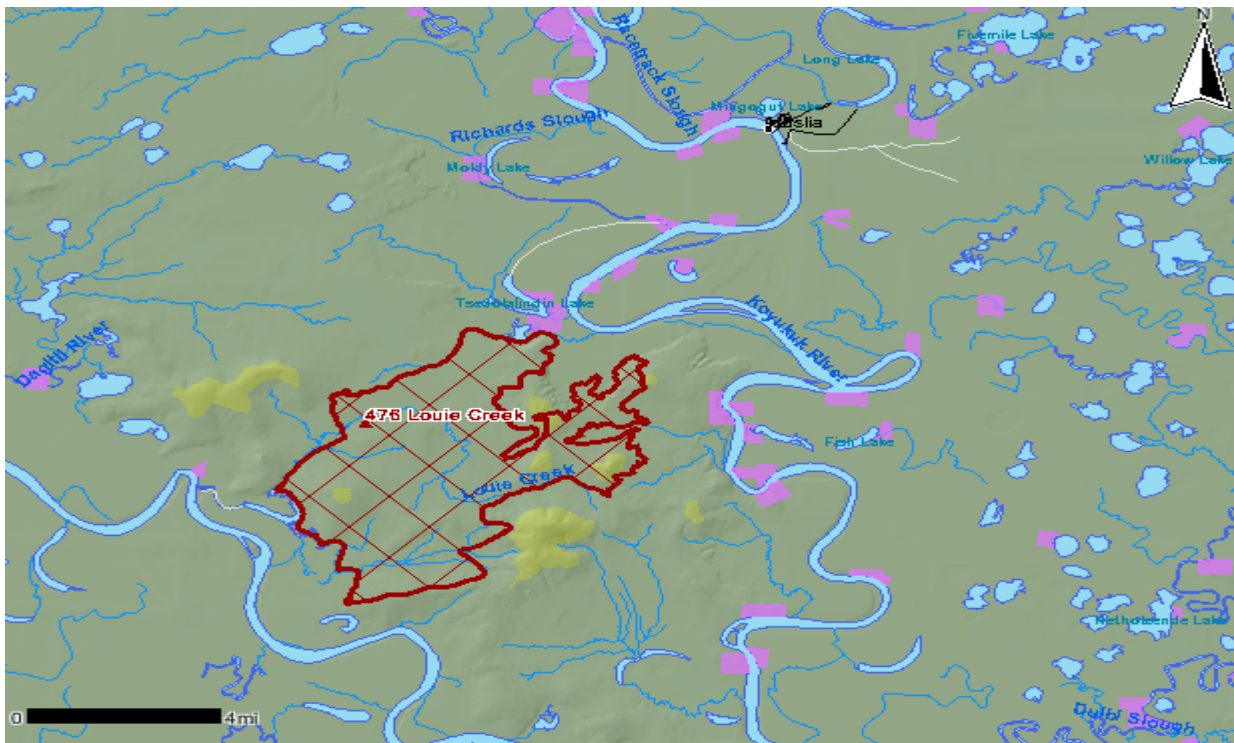
On July 1st crews completed the critical northeast burnout connecting the northeast corner of the fire to natural barriers. Crews worked to strengthen control lines, continued to prepare for other critical burnout operations, and structure and allotment protection along the Koyukuk River.

The hot and dry weather prevailed through the 4th of July. The fire was over 14,000 acres and the number of personnel working the fire had reached 197. On July 5th the fire received rain.

By the 7th winds had brought rapid drying and increased fire behavior. The fire was 6.8 miles from Huslia. Personnel began pulling pumps and hose that were no longer needed, and line and natural barriers were holding.

The fire was completely demobilized on July 12th, and was placed in monitor status. Between the 26th and the 28th personnel returned to remove pumps and hose used for site protection, and all remaining backhaul.

The final size was recorded at 18,110 acres.





Toklat / Photo courtesy DOF

Toklat /Toklat 2

A private aircraft reported a fire to Fairbanks Area Forestry late afternoon on May 16th. It was located east of the Kantishna River in a limited management option area, and believed to be a holdover from the 2009 Railbelt fire. The fire was placed in monitor status. A reconnaissance flight was ordered and Forestry personnel reported the fire was 1200 acres in size, 100% active with 15-20 mph winds in the area.

The following day the fire was mapped at 1657 acres and smokejumpers were deployed for cabin protection.

On May 18th additional smokejumpers were deployed to assist with cabin protection, and retardant drops were ordered to try and slow the fire front. The fire had grown to 4,000 acres and was running and torching with 40 foot flame lengths.

Warming and drying caused indices to climb to high and extreme on May 19th. The fire had more than tripled in size and was burning 25 miles southwest of Nenana. Operational control was transferred to the Tanana Zone at 0800. Allotments, structures and residences were identified and additional personnel were sent to the fire to establish site protection.

The following day an ICP and staging area were established at Clear. The fire had grown to 23,358 acres, with two Type 1 crews, smokejumpers and numerous overhead working the fire. Structure and allotment protection continued to be a priority.

The hot and dry weather did not let up, and by the end of the month the fire had grown to over 127,000 acres and had 196 people working at multiple sites preparing residences and conducting burnout operations.

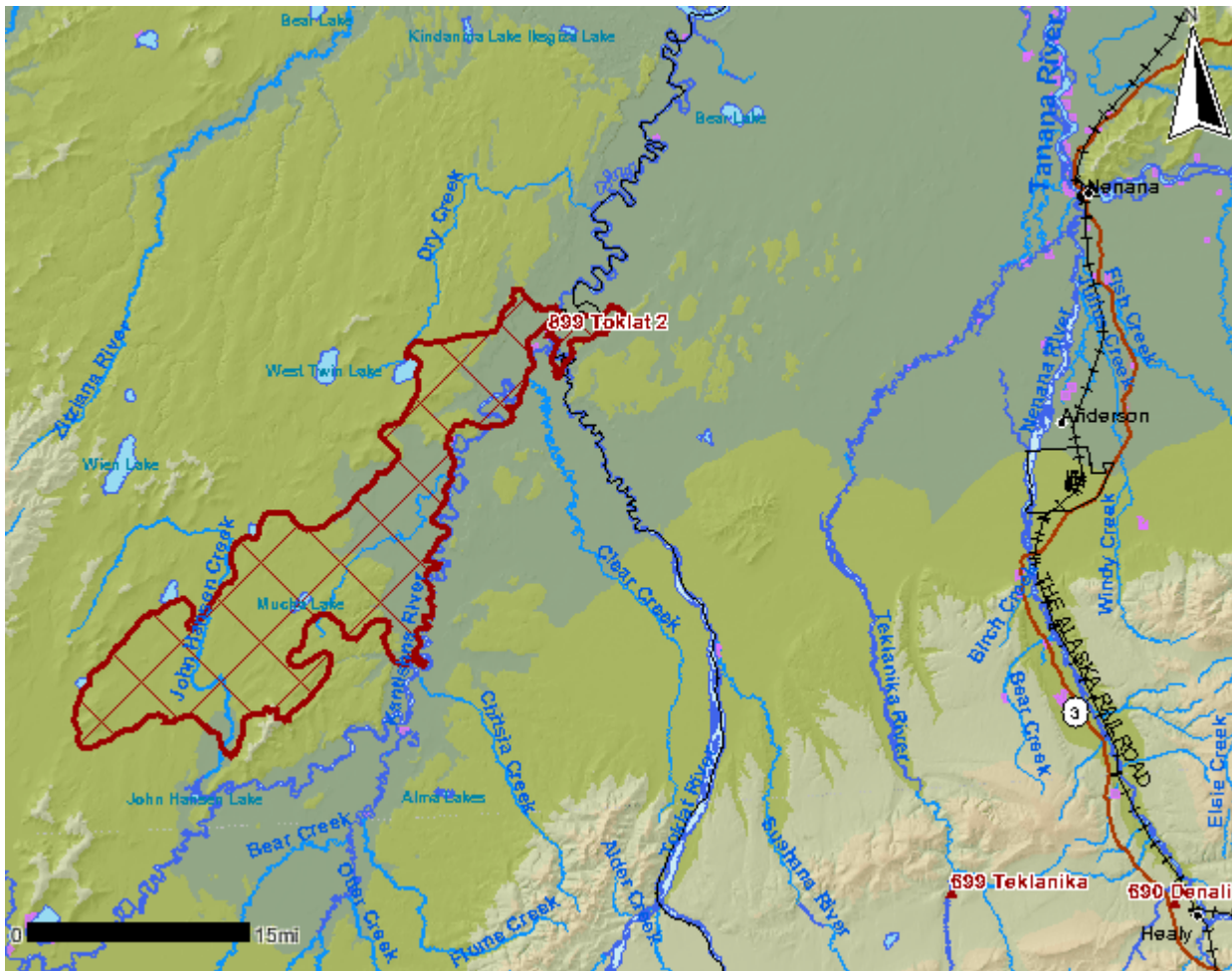
On June 2nd, the Toklat fire burned together with the Jeanne's Lake fire which had started on May 27th. Because the Jeanne's Lake fire plotted in a limited management area the only action taken had been to insert smokejumpers for structure protection. The fire had reached just over 17,000 acres, when it was declared out and acreage and personnel were absorbed into the Toklat fire.

The Zone obtained a new fire number for cost accounting purposes, and the fire became the “Toklat 2” with all new acreage and cost being recorded on that number.

Beginning June 8th the acreages from the original Toklat and Jeanne’s Lake were included in the Toklat 2 acreage accounting for reporting purposes. The combined acreage was 188,807.

June brought cooler, damper weather, and by the 28th the fire had been demobilized and was being monitored by air.

On August 8th the fire was again staffed, this time to retrieve and backhaul structure protection equipment. By August 13th all equipment had been removed and the fire returned to monitor status.





Willow Creek/photo courtesy MID

Willow Creek

On June 10th a private pilot reported a 100% active fire with surface flames in a grassy swamp area. The Military Zone sent surveillance personnel in N6ZV to assess the reported fire. The area was flat tundra and swamp land with a power line running one mile north of the reported location, and no structures in the vicinity. Surveillance personnel were unable to locate the fire, but the area would continue to be monitored.

Eight days later the Military Zone received multiple calls reporting a fire 10 miles south of Fairbanks International Airport. An aircraft with surveillance personnel was launched and found the fire to be approximately 3 acres creeping in grass and black spruce.

On June 19th the Zone again received multiple reports of a wildfire south of the Tanana River. The fire was monitored throughout the day and at last report it had an 80% active perimeter and was running in black and white spruce with group and single tree torching. The fire had gained 660 acres and was ¼ mile from the Tanana River at its nearest point.

Fire activity moderated over the next few days and burnout operations were conducted. June 24th multiple recon missions were flown and personnel boated in to assess fuels and distribute public information. Long term planning efforts were continuing to keep the fire south of the Tanana River and to minimize smoke impacts. The fire had reached 2154 acres.

The fire received precipitation several times and showed minimal activity over the next ten to twelve days. On July 9th the fire was observed to have a 40% active perimeter and to be gaining acreage again.

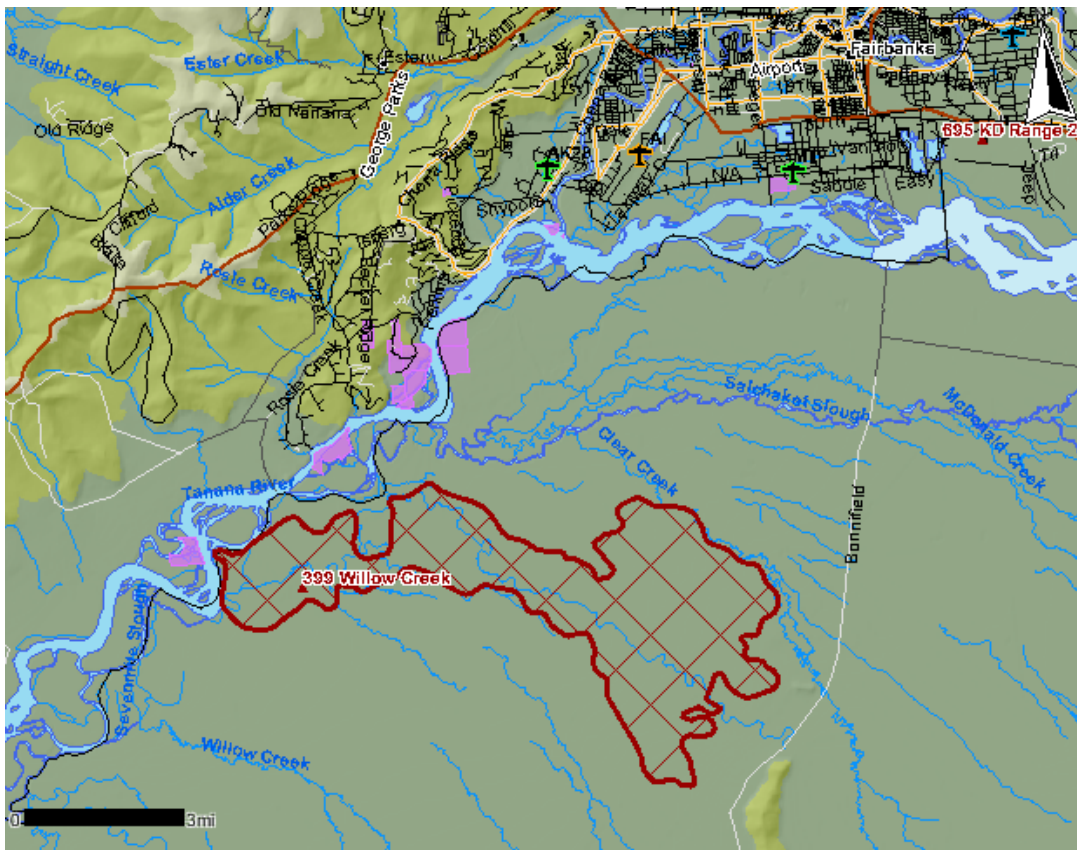
Personnel were assigned to patrol the river and continue assessments and public relations while surveillance flights were conducted daily.

By July 19th the fire had grown to 6180 acres with most of the activity limited to the southeast corner of the perimeter and isolated interior pockets. A new RAWS station was deployed on the southern part of the fire area to assist in weather and fuel monitoring.

Fire activity was minimal with continuing higher relative humidity and ongoing light precipitation until the end of the month. On July 31st at 1830, surveillance personnel reported the fire perimeter was 50% active with backing, running, and group torching behavior. The fire was spotting to 50 feet with 30 foot flame lengths observed.

The increased activity continued on August 1st. The fire made a significant run to the east, northeast. The east flank of the fire along Clear Creek was still pushing smoke toward the Salcha and North Pole areas. The smoke conditions continued throughout the week. Information on the fire was made available to the public at the Tanana Valley State Fair.

Fire activity again decreased and the predominant behavior became smoldering and creeping. Personnel remained assigned to the fire throughout the month. The 13766 acre fire occasionally put up enough smoke to create moderately hazy conditions and it was monitored for the duration of the season.





Pat Creek/ photo by Susan Scott courtesy UYT

Pat Creek

At 1637 on June 25th a fire was reported by a citizen of Stevens Village. Several local residents saw smoke north of town. One individual reported seeing a large column with a base of orange flames. Air Attack, Tanker 264, Tanker 55 and four loads of smokejumper responded to the fire.

When the smokejumpers arrived over the fire it was reported to be 90% active, 50 acres in size with backing, torching and short range spotting occurring in black spruce, hardwoods, and tundra.

Two hours later the fire had grown to 150-200 acres and was being pushed to the north by 15 mph winds. One structure was located on the right flank.

By 2300 the fire had received four loads of smokejumpers and they had begun to anchor in the tail of the fire. The fire had grown another 125 acres and was expected to continue gaining acreage through the night.

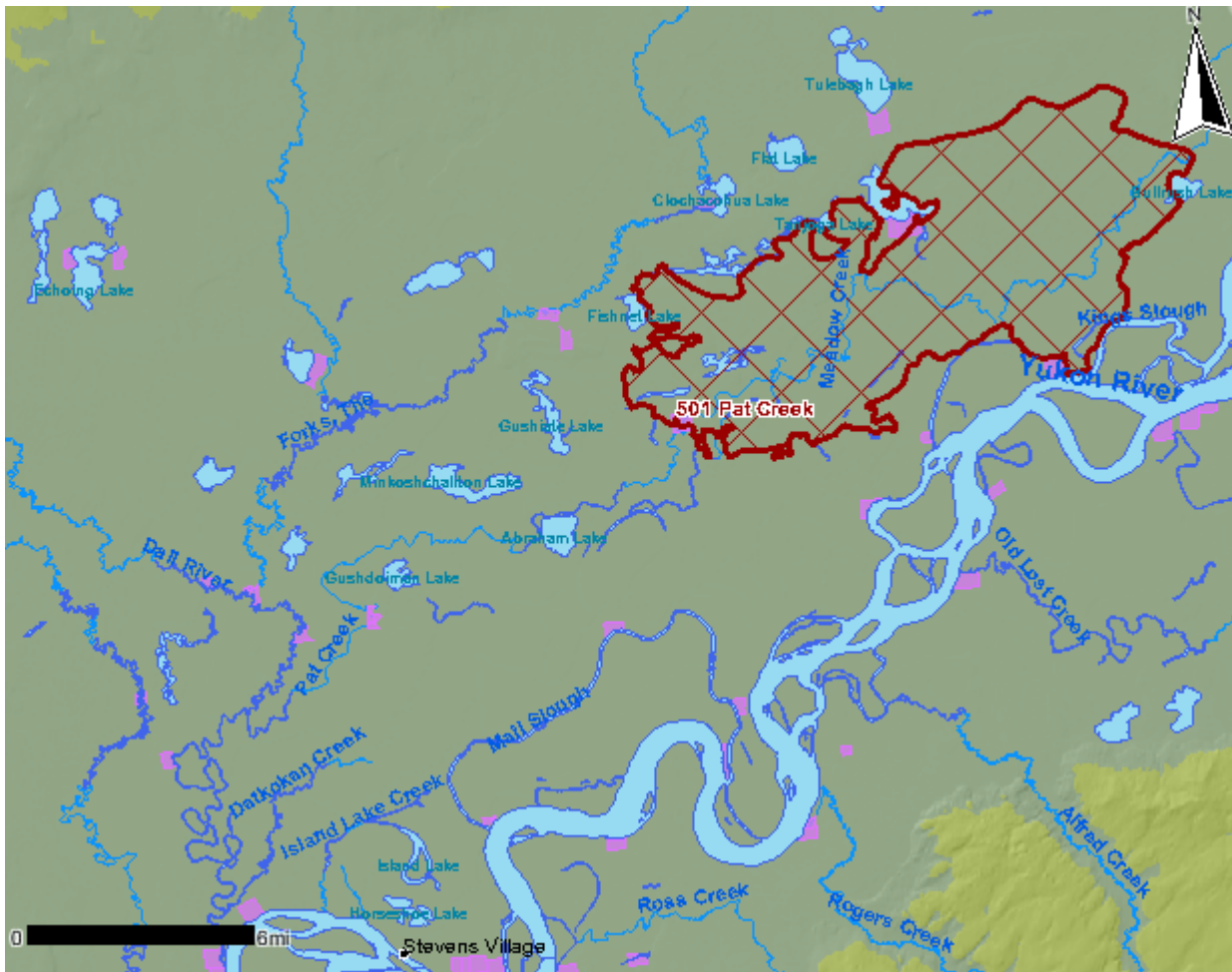
The following day the fire was extremely active with running and crowning fire behavior. A plume dominated column ice capped and collapsed. Six crews were mobilized and a staging area in Stevens Village was established. Resources continued direct attack on the southern perimeter and structure protection was established on two sites. The fire received 6 loads of retardant and continuous drops by CL-215s for the duration of the burning period in addition to continuous bucket support from helicopters. Two additional Type 1 crews were ordered to assist with structure and allotment protection which was a primary focus. A TFR was established over the fire and a fueling site was set up at Five Mile on the Dalton Highway.

Direct and indirect line construction, burnout operations and cabin and allotment protection continued with aerial support for several days. On July 1st the fire was just over 11,800 acres and there were 269 people assigned to the fire. The greatest number of people assigned occurred 7 days later with 282 personnel working the fire.

By July 12th, cooler wetter weather had caused a significant decrease in fire activity. Extensive blow-down prolonged mop-up efforts. On the 25th all personnel were off the fire, but the weather was being monitored closely for an opportunity to utilize burnout operations along the northeast corner of the fire. By the end of the month the weather had improved and a load of smokejumpers was inserted on July 31st to prepare for burnout operations.

Successful burnouts were conducted during the first week in August. By the 5th there were 162 personnel assigned to the 35,000 acre fire. Hazard tree removal again hampered progress mopping up, and bears were a nuisance on the fire line.

On August 14th a strong east wind caused containment problems on the fire. Multiple spot fires were reported on Moose Island that were actively burning, and by the 17th the fire had made a significant run to the northeast and was observed to be torching with continuous crowning. The remaining crews continued to secure line around allotments and prepare additional areas for protection operations.





Gilles Creek/Delta Complex /Photo courtesy DOF

Delta Complex

The Delta Complex was the only complex of the 2010 fire season. It consisted of five fires within Delta Forestry's area of suppression responsibility.

On May 26th a lightning caused fire was discovered during a Delta Area Forestry detection flight. The fire was approximately 60 acres in size and located 18 miles up the Pogo Mine road near Gilles Creek. Since most local resources had been sent to the Tok Area's Eagle Trail fire, 10 personnel, and the remaining Type 3 and Type 7 engines were left to suppress the fire with brief bucket support from Tok Area's helicopter before it departed for Tok. Bulldozers were hired and four crews were ordered. A dozer line was scratched around the fire during the night.

The following day, a CL-215 air tanker joined the efforts, cooling slop-over's and supporting holding the line. Temperatures were in the upper 70's with relative humidity in the teens. The fire jumped the lines and made a major run. The Pogo Mine's main power line was threatened. All personnel (59) were removed from the fire and retardant and air attack were requested. Retardant was ineffective, and the fire had grown to 2000 acres.

On the same day a second fire was reported to Delta Area Forestry and dispatchers requested air attack working the Gilles Creek fire check the new fire. It was reported to be 200 acres, 100% active and moving north. The Gerstle River was to the east of the fire and expected to hold the fire from moving in that direction, but the fire was deemed uncatchable at that point. The Upper Gerstle fire would soon become part of the Delta Complex with Gilles Creek.

By May 28th crews and overhead personnel on the Gilles Creek fire were working with bulldozers and skidgers to secure existing containment lines, and fire breaks were developed around power poles and along power lines. CL-215 air tankers supported ground efforts and assisted in keeping the road open.

The fire had more than doubled in size and estimated at 5500 acres. A Type 2 Team had been ordered and was expected the next operational period.

Also on May 28th, a new 400 acre fire was discovered on a ridge top near the South Fork of the Healy River. Helitack, air attack and CL-215 air tankers were all dispatched, but upon arrival it was determined the air tankers would be ineffective and ground forces would not be able to catch the fire. The South Fork Healy fire would also be absorbed into the Delta Complex.

On May 29th temperatures climbed into the 80's and relative humidity remained in the teens and low 20 percentiles. 116 people were working on the Gilles Creek fire with CL-215s repeatedly dropping water, a helicopter and an air tanker augmenting crew efforts to regain line with bucket work and retardant drops. Late in the day the fire blew up forcing equipment along the road to make a run to safety. All dozer line was lost and all personnel were again evacuated. The Pogo Mine provided services for personnel on the eastern side of the fire and the rest of the personnel were housed in Delta Junction. The road within the fire was closed. The Gilles Creek fire had reached 15,000 acres.

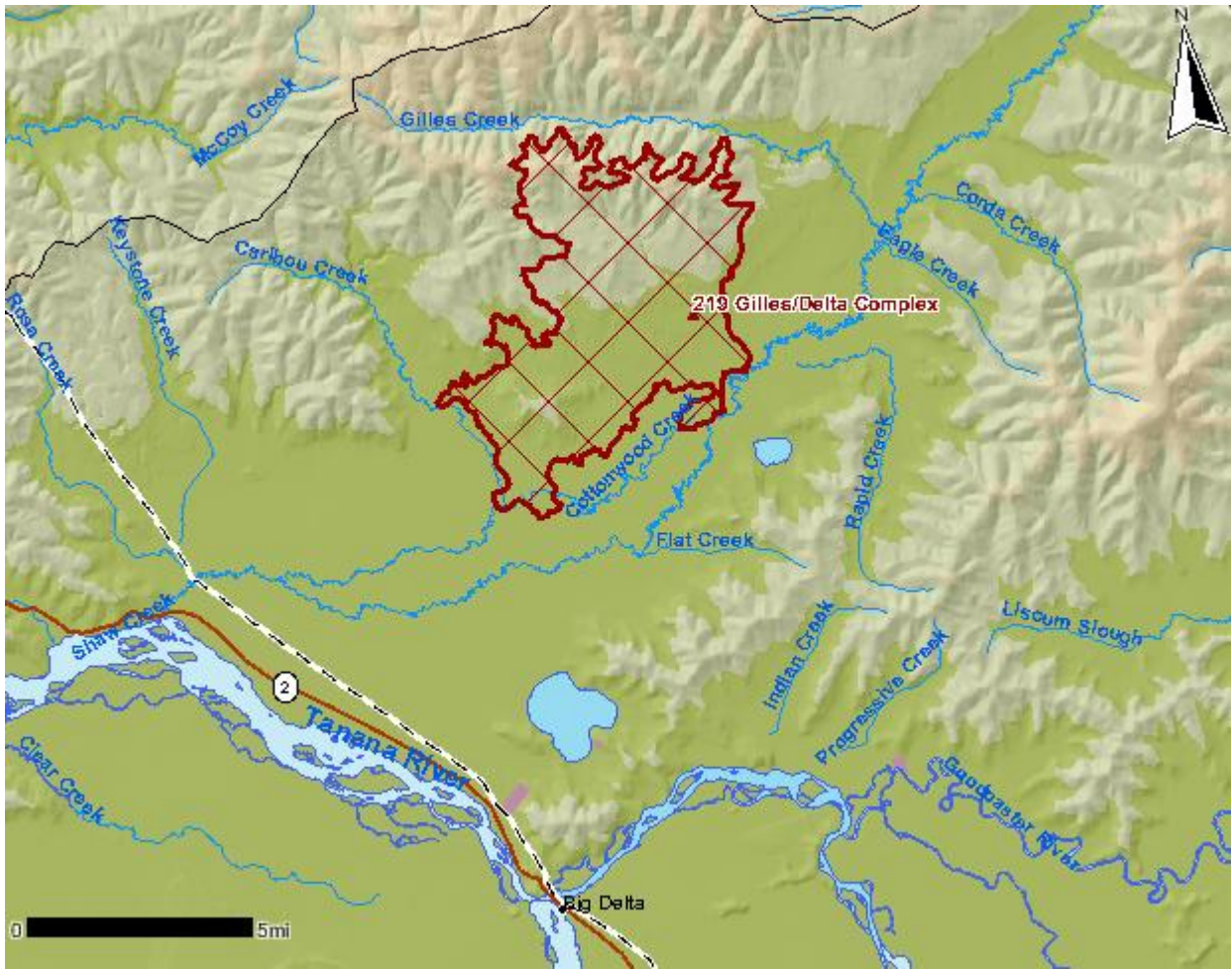
On May 30th the Type 2 Team assumed control of the Gilles Creek fire. Also that day, a camper near Healy Lake reported seeing a lightning strike that started a fire. Delta Area Helitack responded and found the fire to be very active and between 50 and 100 acres in size. Retardant, air attack, smokejumpers and CL-215s were ordered and worked the fire while the Helitack personnel focused on structure protection. This fire, Healy River, would be added to the Delta Complex as well.

On the last day of May, four of the five fires that would become the Delta Complex had burned approximately 18,000 acres and had 293 people working on them. Temperatures remained in the 70's and the fine fuel moisture codes for Delta Area's weather stations were all registering as extreme.

On June 1st a retardant worker and personnel from the Pogo Mine reported smoke which turned out to be just over 1900 acres burning in a limited protection area. The Big Swede fire would be monitored, and became the final fire in the complex.

Temperatures, relative humidity and indices began to slowly moderate and on June 4th the general area received precipitation allowing fire personnel to make good progress on the fires. The Type 2 Team assumed operational control of the fires and the Delta Complex was formed. On June 9th there were 633 personnel assigned. There were a total of 25 crews utilized on the fires, assigned between May 9th and June 19th when the all personnel were demobilized.

Between June 6th and July 6th precipitation was recorded at one or more of the Delta RAWs sites for 21 out of 30 days. July weather was similar until late in the month. On July 27th the Gilles Creek fire was again staffed to extinguish several hot spots. By August 2nd firefighters had been demobilized and the fire was placed in monitor status for the remainder of the season.





Chitanatala/photo courtesy TAD

Chitanatala

Surveillance personnel discovered this lightning caused fire on May 26th. The fire was approximately 40 acres in size with 5-8 foot flame lengths on the flanks and 30 foot flame lengths at the head. The fire was running and spotting in black spruce, and plotted in a limited management area.

The following day the fire was flown again and found to be 70% active and running with group torching and spotting to 1/8 mile. Crown fire was also observed. The fire was burning in black spruce and had increased in size in all directions to approximately 950 acres.

On May 29th, with temperatures in the upper seventies and the relative humidity hovering around 20 %, the fire perimeter was 100 percent active with backing, prolific group torching, and crowning on the east and north sides of the fire. Extreme fire behavior was observed in the fire's interior with total consumption occurring. Although the winds were light, 3 to 7 miles per hour out of the south under 40% cloud cover, the fire was burning extremely rapidly through black spruce and hardwoods. Eight smokejumpers were deployed to begin structure assessment and protection utilizing sprinklers and hose lays, and two Interagency Hotshot Crews were ordered for arrival the following day.

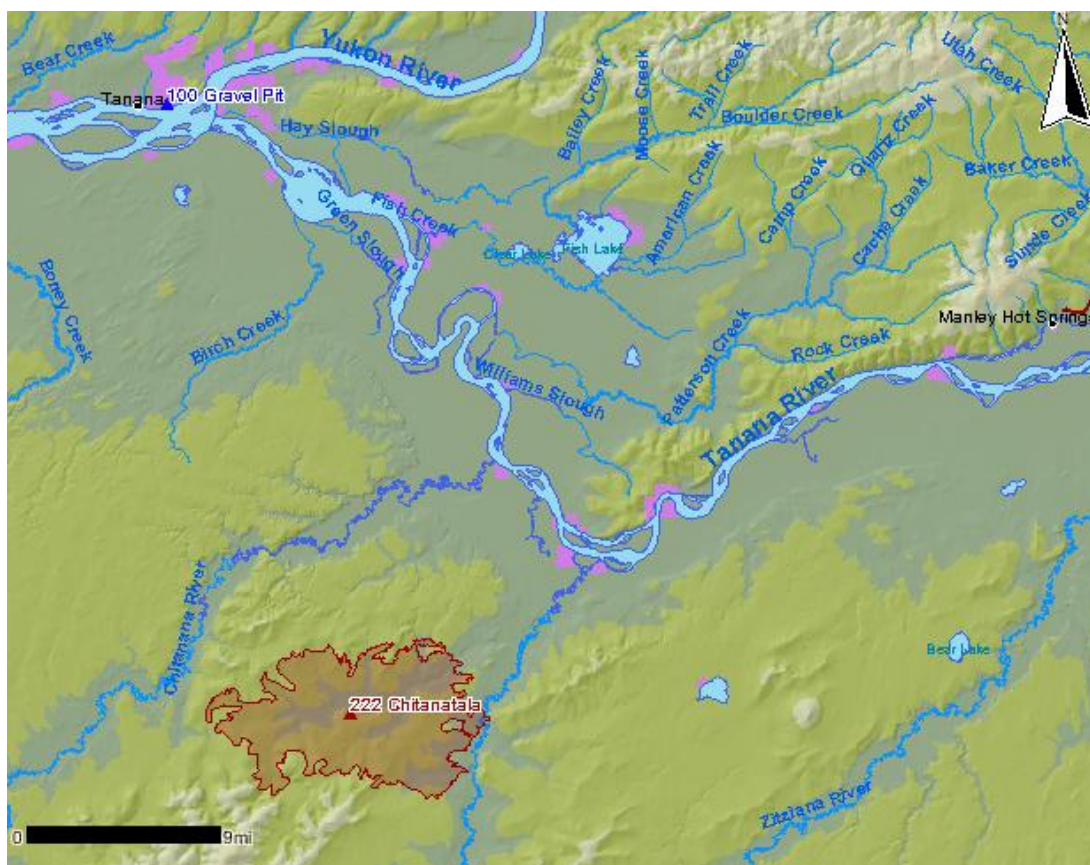
The following day smoke conditions prevented surveillance personnel from obtaining an accurate map. Fire behavior was extreme but smokejumpers and crews successfully conducted burnout operations on the northwest corner of the Buffalo Ranch. An additional load of smokejumpers was deployed to assist with burnout operations to secure home sites planned for the following day.

The last day of the month the fire received some light precipitation and personnel prepped around Buffalo Ranch and other structures in the area and mopped up the burnout from the previous day. Smoke conditions continued to hamper air operations and prevented mapping.

On June 1st fire behavior moderated and smokejumpers were replaced by crews to continue burnout preparation around structures. For the next several days' crews continued to arrive and work on fuels reduction, burnout preparation and mop up. By June 8th there were 88 personnel assigned to the fire and its size had grown to over 25,700 acres.

On June 12th there was a shift in tactics due to excessive rainfall. Structure protection was completed and demobilization from the Buffalo Ranch and adjacent structures was initiated. The 25,706 acre fire would be placed in monitor status the following day.

Pumps and hose used for structure protection were pulled and backhauled in the latter part of August, and the fire was called out in September at 36,633 acres.





Turquoise Lake/ photo by Paul van Hees courtesy SWS

Turquoise Lake

On May 17th Kenai Flight Service received a fire report from an unknown pilot. The information was relayed to the Division of Forestry Dispatch Office in McGrath. Air Attack 909AK was dispatched to the fire to obtain a size up. The fire was two small hot spots burning on either side of the Post River. The spots were creeping and smoldering in black spruce and approximately 5 acres in size combined. The fire plotted in a limited management option area, there were no structures threatened at the time, no action was taken, and the fire was placed in monitor status. The fire appeared to be a holdover from the 2009 Post River fire.

The following day the fire was checked again and found to be very active on the south side of the river and it had doubled in size. Temperatures were in the mid to upper 60s and relative humidity was below 25%.

Over the next few days temperatures cooled and relative humidity moved into the 30% range. On May 22nd the fire made a hard run upslope on the north side of the Post River, with minimal activity in the flats. On the south side of the river the fire was advancing up the Post River drainage. The fire had reached 200 acres in size, but still was not posing a threat to any critical sites.

The caretaker of the Farewell Lodge reported ash fall on May 26th. When the fire was flown it was found to be making a major run along the south fork with 50 foot flame lengths on the left flank and cluttered torching on the right. Smoke columns were topping at 15 to 20 thousand feet, and smoke conditions were too severe to get low enough for accurate mapping. The acreage was estimated to be 1700 acres.

The following day temperatures had risen in to the 70s and the relative humidity had dropped. Smoke conditions continued to be severe with a column on the northwest flank reaching 20,000 feet. The fire was being wind driven and displayed 50 to 100 foot flame lengths.

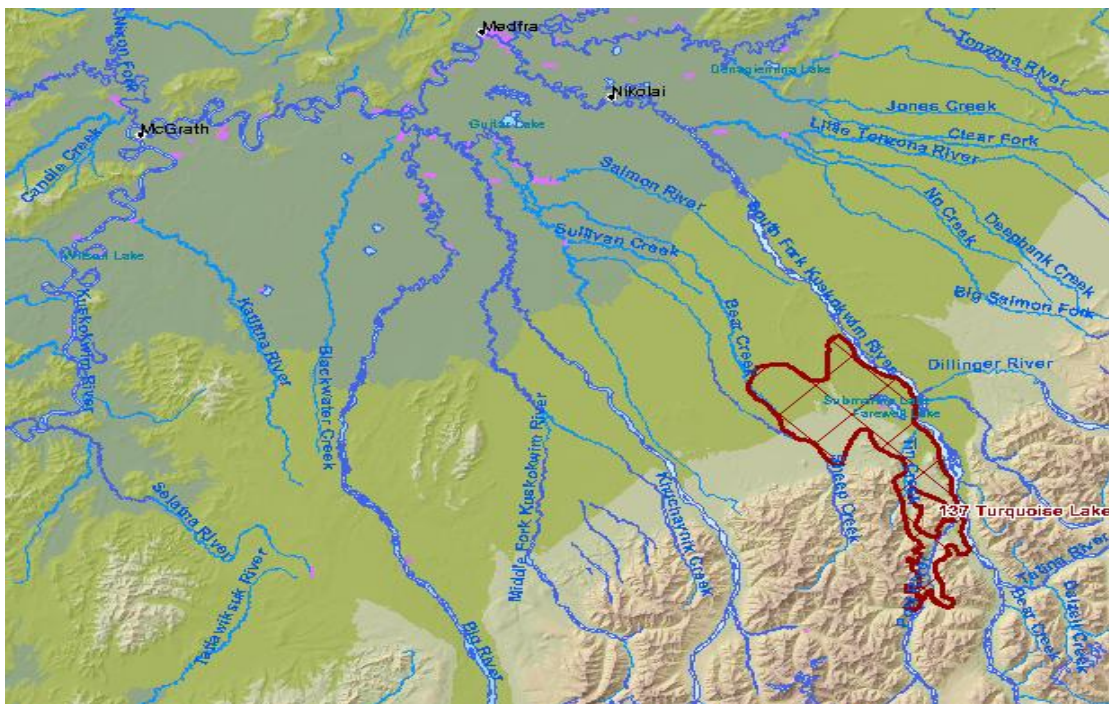
On May 28th the fire made a significant run to the north exhibiting extreme fire behavior. Firefighters were sent to critical sites to take cabin protection measures. The fire moved 2.25 miles in 20 minutes threatening the Farewell Lake Lodge. The firefighters and caretaker had to evacuate the area and the lodge and outbuildings were destroyed. Retardant was used to save a cabin to the north of the lodge, but all remaining personnel were retrieved from the fire to safety.

The next day the fire made another major run, this time up Tin Creek. Several organized columns up to 15000 feet were observed, and a seven mile flaming front moved northwest from Submarine Lake to the Kuskokwim River. Fire personnel were able to complete structure protection measures at a private cabin, a BLM public cabin and a RAWs station. Structure protection efforts at Farewell Station and Farewell Airport were under way.

By the last day of May, the extreme fire behavior had not abated. Several more sites had been equipped with sprinklers and hose lays, but as the fire progressed more sites were threatened. There was a concern the fire would jump the Kuskokwim river where there was an additional cabin to protect. An attempt to use retardant to pre-treat and protect values at risk was made but was not successful. Heavy smoke reduced visibility to a quarter mile. The fire was estimated to be over 56000 acres.

June 1st the fire gained over 25000 acres. The fire behavior had moderated, the natural barriers were holding, and the main spread was up Sheep Creek into the mountains. For the next several days values at risk were evaluated and multiple structures were plumbed for protection. The fire received rain on June 4th.

Personnel completed the last of the planned structure protection June 7th, and were demobilized. The fire continued to be monitored throughout July and August, and was called administratively out on September 7th at 91,885 acres.





Eklutna/ Photo courtesy DOF

Eklutna

On May 29th the Mat-Su Area of the Division of Forestry received a report of smoke at the Eklutna Lake camping area. Air Attack was dispatched for a quick size up and Forestry and the Volunteer Fire department engines responded. The fire was approximately 10 acres, burning in black spruce. There was a light wind with active spotting. The DOF engine crewmembers set up a pump and hose lay to knock down the active area on the east side to prevent further spread on to NCA land. The Incident Commander and three crewmembers remained overnight to monitor the fire and extinguish spot fires. Two crews were ordered for the following day.

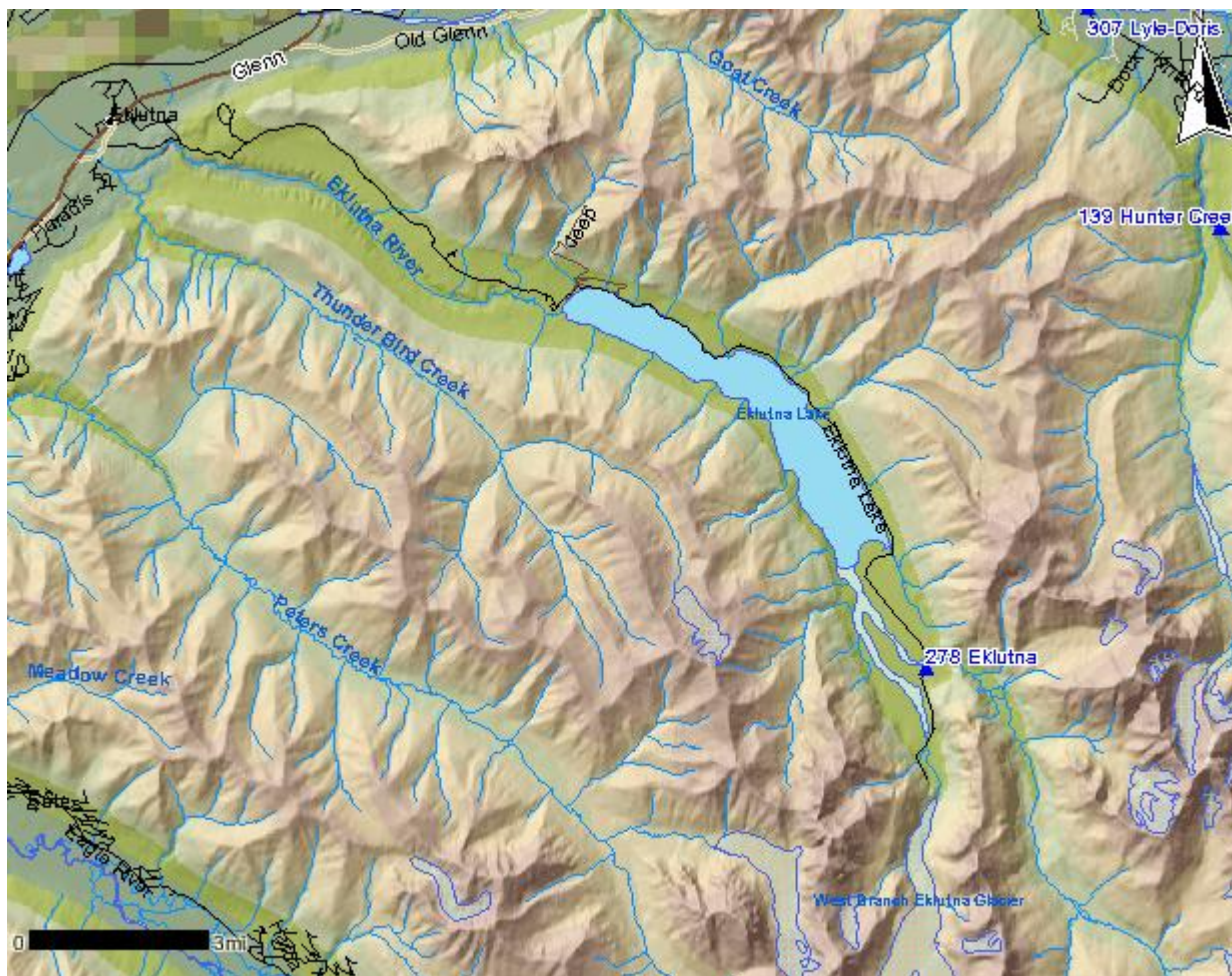
On May 30th the fire made a significant run to the northwest. The fire blew out all control lines and crossed the access road into the fire. Personnel pulled back to safety zones, the all were flown out of the fire area by helicopter. An engine and ATVs were left with the expectation of safe retrieval the following day. Two more crews were ordered. Smoke made mapping difficult and a conservative estimate of the fire size was 300 acres.

On the last day of the month, with temperatures in the 70s, and fine fuel moisture high to extreme, a burn out operation was initiated. The southeast wind increased from 2 to 3 miles per hour to 21 miles per hour causing the fire to make another significant run. Personnel were again removed from the line and inserted into a safety area. Air tanker use was hampered by thick smoke and steep canyon walls. Extreme fire behavior was observed as the fire moved 1 mile to the north. Most of the spread had occurred in the valley bottom, but the fire was beginning to move under brush and hardwoods up the canyon walls. Crews returned to the line and worked throughout the evening trying to hold the northeast corner of the fire and prevent it from spreading to the north end of the lake. The fire had increased almost 1000 acres.

By June 3rd both Type 1 and Type 2 crews were working the fire, continuing containment efforts utilizing direct attack and mop up. There were a total of 117 personnel assigned to the fire. It was 1,693 acres and 20% contained at the time.

Over the next few days hotspots were extinguished, spot fires gridded, line was cut and secured, and hazard trees were cleaned up.

June 7th was the beginning of reassigning and demobilizing crews, and by June 11th all personnel were off the fire and it was placed in monitor status until it was declared out on August 5th.





Applegate/photo courtesy TAD

Applegate

On May 26th, Tanana Zone received a report of a fire 1.5 miles north of the Elliot Highway, from surveillance personnel on N309VS. The fire was reported to be running with group torching in black spruce with 3-5 foot flame lengths. Smokejumpers were dispatched to the fire for structure and point protection. Upon their arrival the fire was estimated to be approximately 100 acres.

By the following day the fire had grown significantly in all directions. Temperatures exceeded 80 degrees with relative humidity readings in the teens. The fire was 1.4 miles from the Elliot Highway and 2 miles from the nearest structure. Resources began arriving and a staging area was established at Manley. Personnel began an initial assessment of structures in the Eureka area. The smokejumpers were released as additional firefighters arrived. The fire perimeter was located by GPS and the size had increased to 4000 acres.

On May 28th the fire had grown mainly to the north and east. Structure protection was completed at two sites, and initiated at a third. The fire was only one mile from the nearest structure in Eureka and 1.4 miles from the highway. The fire was showing potential to jump Hutlinana Creek, the barrier to the west of the fire.

High temperatures and low relative humidity continued. On the 29th the fire was reported as 90% active with group torching on the north and eastern parts of the fire, with spotting to one half mile ahead of the fire. Spread to the south and east was moderate, and the fire was still 1.2 miles from the Elliot Highway. Structure protection was completed, and a repeater was put in place to improve communication on the line.

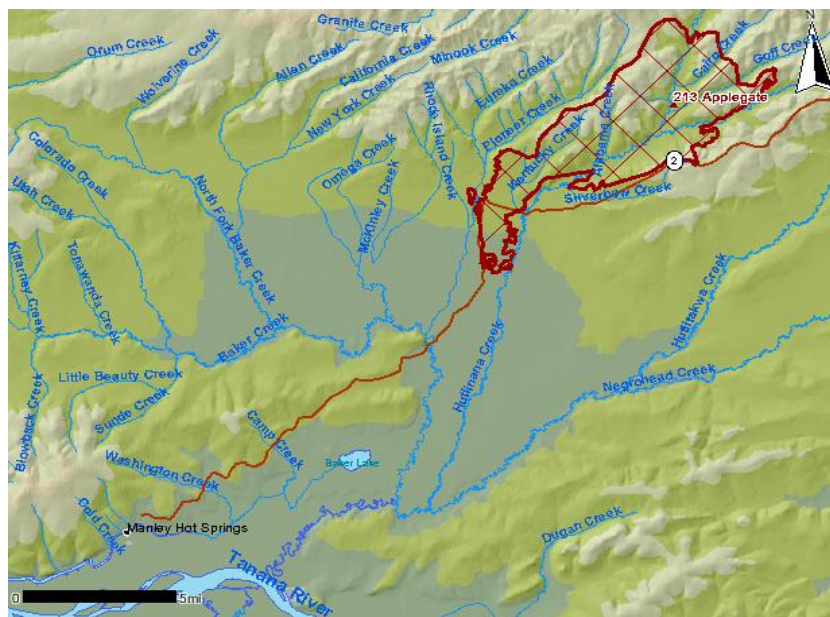
On May 30th, the fifth consecutive day of very high temperatures, low relative humidity, and high to extreme indices, very erratic and extreme fire behavior was observed. The fire had crossed the Elliot Highway in multiple locations. One of the spots on the other side of the highway was knocked down with retardant, but another near the junction of Eureka Road was approximately 100 acres. The fire had burned around some of the protected sites and no structures were damaged. The fire transitioned to a Type 3 incident, and more resources were ordered. Slop-overs on the Elliot Highway were being assessed, structure and site protection continued. The fire was estimated to be 12,000 acres with 30 personnel assigned.

On the last day of the month the fire continued to burn actively and bumps the Elliot Highway. Hot Shot crews arrived, six structures along the highway were successfully secured by burning out around newly constructed dozer line, structure protection and site assessment continued.

June 1st the fire had reached over 16,000 acres and had 187 people assigned to it. The weather moderated with slightly lower temperatures and higher relative humidity. Two small slop-overs from the previous day's burn out operations were lined with the dozer, secured and mopped up. The fire remained boxed in east of the Elliot Highway, south of Hutlinana Creek and north of the dozer line. One of the hot shot crews was reassigned to another Tanana Zone located to the southwest of Manley.

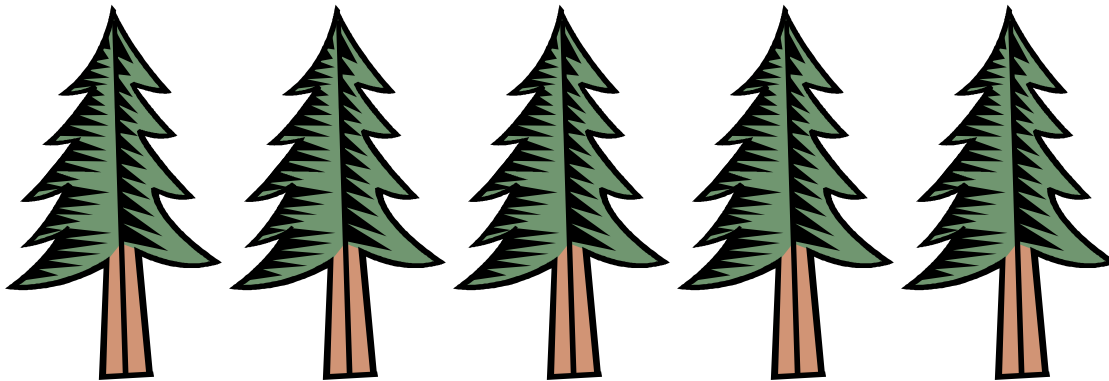
During the first week in June crews secured line, mopped up and began rehabilitation work while the dozer opened up old fuel breaks around Manley. Demobilization began on the 10th.

On June 16th the last of the backhaul was removed from the Manley staging area, and all remaining fire resources were demobilized. The fire was placed in monitor status at 17,446 acres.



**Statewide
Fires and Acres Burned by Protection Agency
and Management Option**

Agency		Critical	Full	Modified	Limited	Total
Alaska Fire Service	fires	8	56	80	184	328
	acres	428.9	273,660.0	117,663.3	464,836.2	856,588.4
State of Alaska	fires	224	59	13	34	330
	acres	18,053.6	22,448.0	23,239.8	205,077.0	268,818.4
U.S. Forest Service	fires	17	4	1	8	30
	acres	9.9	1.0	0.1	1.2	12.2
Total Fires		249	119	94	226	688
Total Acres		18,492.4	296,109.0	140,903.2	669,914.4	1,125,419.0



Alaska 10 – Year Fire Rank

of Acres 5th # of Fires 2nd

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
218,113	2,186,682	602,146	6,523,816	4,649,597	270,539	649,411	103,299	2,951,592	1,125,419
351	544	465	696	624	305	506	368	527	688

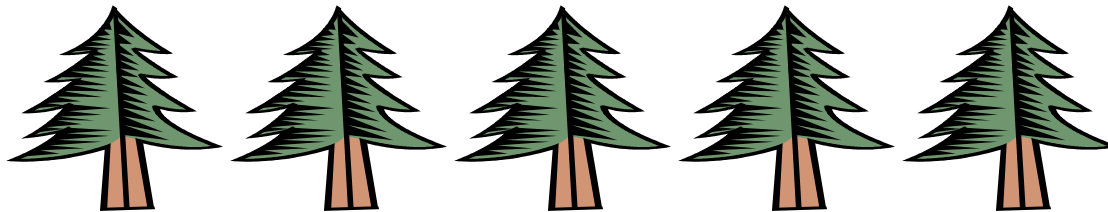
**Statewide
Fires and Acres Burned by Landowner
and Management Option
2010**

Owner		Critical	Full	Modified	Limited	Total
Bureau of Indian Affairs	fires	0	1		0	1
	acres	0.0	986.6	92.0	0.0	1,078.6
Bureau of Land Management	fires	1	4	20	49	74
	acres	0.1	12,309.4	10,085.5	291,227.3	313,622.3
Fish and Wildlife Service	fires	1	7	24	37	69
	acres	0.1	564.1	91,742.8	113,490.8	205,797.8
Military Lands	fires	3	17	0	28	48
	acres	0.3	20.8	870.0	19,690.9	20,582.0
Native Claims Act Lands	fires	8	33	23	6	70
	acres	6,900.1	9,161.6	33,506.6	50,101.4	99,669.7
National Park Service	fires	1	6	2	44	53
	acres	0.5	13,217.3	1.9	97,827.0	111,046.7
Private	fires	166	10	0	2	178
	acres	97.7	597.3	16.0	2,508.8	3,219.8
State of Alaska	fires	60	38	56	25	179
	acres	11,106.6	43,741.3	35,997.0	279,547.3	370,392.2
U.S. Forest Service	fires	9	3	0	4	16
	acres	8.6	0.5	0.0	0.8	9.9
Total Fires	fires	249	119	125	195	688
Total Acres Burned	acres	18,114.0	80,598.9	172,311.8	854,394.3	1,125,419.0

Number of fires is based on ownership and management option at point of origin. Acreage shown is actual acres burned by owner and Management option, i.e. fires that burned on multiple ownerships are counted as fires based on the ownership at point of origin, but the acreage burned is divided and shown based on the owner where the acres burned.

**Alaska Fire Service Protection
Fires and Acres Burned by Zone
and Management Option**

Zone		Critical	Full	Modified	Limited	Total
Galena	fires	1	15	56	79	151
	acres	30.0	13,488.8	32,816.3	165,764.9	212,100.0
Military	fires	3	17	0	28	48
	acres	0.3	15.9	0.0	21,259.8	21,276.0
Tanana	fires	2	5	19.0	47	73
	acres	0.8	187,056.3	48,051.4	101,123.1	336,231.6
Upper Yukon	fires	2	19	5	30	56
	acres	397.8	73,099.0	36,795.6	176,688.4	286,980.8
Total Fires		8	56	80	184	328
Total Acres Burned		428.9	273,660.0	117,663.3	464,836.2	856,588.4



**U.S. Forest Service
Fires and Acres Burned by Forest
and Management Option**

Forest		Critical	Full	Modified	Limited	Total
Chugach National Forest	fires	0	0	0	0	0
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Tongass National Forest	fires	17	4	1	8	30
	acres	9.9	1.0	0.1	1.2	12.2
Total Fires		17	4	1	8	30
Total Acres Burned		9.9	1	0.1	1.2	12.2

**State of Alaska Protection
Fires and Acres Burned by Region/Area
and Management Option**

Area		Critical	Full	Modified	Limited	Totals
<u>Northern Region</u>						
Copper River	fires	7	3	0	2	12
	acres	2.9	0.3	0.0	0.6	3.8
Delta	fires	28	6	1	2	37
	acres	31.9	21,901.6	0.4	5,379.0	27,312.9
Fairbanks	fires	72	22	4	11	109
	acres	38.5	509.4	2,232.8	8,675.8	11,456.5
Tok	fires	11	2	2	1	16
	acres	17,935.0	1.8	14.6	0.5	17,951.9
<u>Southern Region</u>						
Anchorage-Matsu	fires	77	11	1	0	89
	acres	35.5	9.5	1,692.7	0.0	1,737.7
Kenai-Kodiak	fires	27	5	0	1	33
	acres	7.7	4.3	0.0	65.0	77.0
Southwest	fires	1	8	5	17	31
	acres	2.0	19.5	19,299.3	190,956.1	210,276.9
Haines	fires	1	2	0	0	3
	acres	0.1	1.6	0.0	0.0	1.7
Total Fires		224	59	13	34	330
Total Acres Burned		18,053.6	22,448.0	23,239.8	205,077.0	268,818.4

BLM
Fires and Acres Burned by Field Office
and Management Option

<u>Administrative Office</u>		Critical	Full	Modified	Limited	Total
Anchorage Field Office	fires	0	1	2	5	8
	acres	0.0	4.0	3.1	72,424.0	72,431.1
Glennallen Field Office	fires	1	0	0	0	1
	acres	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Northern Field Office	fires	0	3	18	44	65
	acres	0.0	15,182.4	10,153.1	209,825.2	235,160.7
Total Fires		0	4	20	49	74
Total Acres Burned		0.0	15,186.4	10,156.2	282,249.2	307,591.9

BLM
Fires and Acres Burned by Landowner
and Management Option

<u>Administrative Office</u>		Critical	Full	Modified	Limited	Total
Anchorage Field Office	fires	0	1	2	5	8
	acres	0.0	4.0	28.3	72,449.0	72,481.3
Glennallen Field Office	fires	1	0	0	0	1
	acres	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Northern Field Office	fires	0	3	18	44	65
	acres	0.0	12,305.4	10,057.2	218,778.3	241,140.9
Total Fires		0	4	20	49	74
Total Acres Burned		0.0	12,309.4	10,085.5	291,227.3	313,622.3

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Fires and Acres Burned by Refuge
and Management Option**

Refuge		Critical	Full	Modified	Limited	Total
Artic	fires	0	0	1	2	3
	acres	0.0	0.0	14.0	23.0	37.0
Becharof	fires	0	0	0	1	1
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	640.0	640.0
Innoko	fires	0	0	0	1	1
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	4,244.9	4,244.9
Kanuti	fires	0	0	7	1	8
	acres	0.0	0.0	6,840.0	30,251.9	37,091.9
Kodiak	fires	0	1	0	0	1
	acres	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	3.0
Kenai	fires	1	3	1	1	6
	acres	0.1	0.3	2.0	65.0	67.4
Koyukuk	fires	0	0	7	7	14
	acres	0.0	0.0	174.4	6,257.0	6,431.4
Nowitna	fires	0	0	0	3	3
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	15,935.0	15,935.0
Selawik	fires	0	0	6	8	14
	acres	0.0	0.0	499.7	2,655.0	3,154.7
Yukon Delta	fires	0	1	0	1	2
	acres	0.0	1.0	0.0	10,766.0	10,767.0
Yukon Flats	fires	0	2	2	12	16
	acres	0.0	2.8	31,226.8	36,107.3	67,336.9
Total Fires		1	7	24	37	69
Total Acres Burned		0.1	7.1	38,756.9	106,945.1	145,709.2

National Park Service Fires and Acres Burned by Park or Preserve and Management Option						
<u>National Park</u>		Critical	Full	Modified	Limited	Total
Bering Land Bridge	fires	0	0	0	1	1
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	4.0
Denali	fires	1	0	0	2	3
	acres	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.7
Gates of the Artic	fires	0	0	0	6	6
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,413.1	1,413.1
Kobuk Valley	fires	0	0	0	1	1
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	300.0	300.0
Noatak	fires	0	6	2	30	38
	acres	0.0	13,217.3	1.9	93,540.6	106,759.8
Wrangell St.Elias	fires	0	0	0	1	1
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Yukon Charlie	fires	0	0	0	3	3
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	4,480.0	4,480.0
Total Fires		1	6	2	44	53
Total Acres Burned		1.5	13,217.3	1.9	99,738.0	112,957.7

National Park Service Fires and Acres Burned by Landowner and Management Option						
<u>National Park</u>		Critical	Full	Modified	Limited	Total
Bering Land Bridge	fires	0	0	0	1	1
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	4.0
Denali	fires	1	0	0	2	3
	acres	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.7
Gates of the Artic	fires	0	0	0	6	6
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	671.1	671.1
Kobuk Valley	fires	0	0	0	1	1
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	300.0	300.0
Noatak	fires	0	6	2	30	38
	acres	0.0	13,217.3	1.9	92,257.6	105,476.8
Wrangell St.Elias	fires	0	0	0	1	1
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Yukon Charlie	fires	0	0	0	3	3
	acres	0.0	0.0	0.0	4,480.0	4,480.0
Total Fires		1	6	2	44	53
Total Acres Burned		0.5	13,217.3	1.9	97,713.0	110,932.7

2010 EFF WAGES		# of Assignments	Gross wages	# of Assignments	Gross Wages
Alakanuk					
Allakaket	AFS TAD	4	\$219,668.24		
Anchorage					\$32,206.45
Angoon					
Ambler	AFS GAD		\$40,926.44		
Anvik					
Artic Village		3	\$111,628.98		
Beaver	AFS UYD	3	\$60,743.82		
Bettles					
Buckland	AFS GAD	1	\$13,452.82		
Central					
Chalkyitsik	AFS UYD				
Chevak	DOF SWS			3	\$112,386.10
Chickaloon	AFS				
Circle	AFS		\$14,041.62		
Chugiak	DOF				
Copper River	DOF CRS				
Deering			\$20,114.99		
Delta	DOF DAS			2	\$469,685.69
Denali Park	AFS				
Ester	AFS				
Eagle River					
Eagle	AFS UYD				
Fairbanks	DOF FAS			10	\$1,486,465.86
Ft. Wainwright					
Fort Yukon	AFS UYD	4	\$326,625.60		
Gakona				1	\$341,525.23
Galena	AFS GAD	1	\$206,209.35		
Girdwood					
Glennallen					
Grayling	AFS GAD	1	\$85,704.26		
Gustavus					
Haines	DOF SCS				
Holy Cross	AFS GAD	1	\$61,805.60		
Homer					\$5,999.04
Hooper Bay	DOF SWS			4	\$170,323.27
Hughes	AFS TAD	1	\$75,427.56		
Huslia	AFS GAD	3	\$243,334.82		
Iliamna					
Juneau					
Kalskag, Lower	DOF SWS				
Kalskag, Upper	DOF SWS			3	\$141,103.46
Kaltag	AFS GAD	3	\$211,233.92		
Kasilof					
Kenai	DOF KNS				\$140,107.22
Kiana	AFS GAD	1	\$18,530.02		
Kotzebue					
Koyuk	AFS GAD	1	\$57,630.32		
Koyukuk	AFS GAD	1	\$45,562.24		
Larson Bay					

2010 EFF WAGES		# of Assignments	Gross wages	# of Assignments	Gross Wages
Manley Hot Springs			\$4,235.36		
Marshall	AFS GAD	3			
McGrath	DOF SWS				\$337,434.48
Mentasta	DOF TAF			1	\$37,807.90
Minto	AFS TAD	8	\$305,417.18		
Mt. Mckinley					
Mt. Village	AFS GAD	1	\$74,637.69		
Nenana	DOF FAS			1	\$54,564.04
Nikolai	DOF SWS	3		3	\$30,565.08
Noatak			\$13,832.98		
Nondalton	DOF SWS			2	\$121,607.51
Nome					
Noorvik	AFS GAD	3	\$155,811.06		
Northway	DOF TAS			1	\$227,894.93
Nulato	AFS GAD	5	\$168,901.52		
North Pole					
Palmer				1	\$412,612.76
Pilot Station	AFS GAD	2	\$92,473.44		
Ruby	AFS GAD	3	\$134,999.88		
St. Mary's	AFS GAD	1	\$96,346.26		
St. Michael	AFS GAD	1	\$48,676.28		
Scammon Bay	DOF SWS			1	\$88,291.36
Selawik	AFS GAD	4	\$257,833.54		
Seward					
Shageluk	DOF SWS			1	\$73,798.96
Shaktoolik	AFS GAD				
Sleetmute	DOF SWS				
Shungnak		2	\$41,759.96		
Sitka					
Stebbins	AFS GAD				
Sterling					
Stevens Village	AFS UYD	5	\$68,952.42		
Talkeetna					
Tanacross	DOF TAS			1	\$81,887.74
Tanana	AFS TAD	3	\$218,951.84		
Tetlin	DOF TAS			1	\$49,405.67
Tok	DOF TAS			2	\$545,336.33
Two Rivers					
Valdez					
Venetie	AFS UYD	5	\$406,813.90		
Wasilla					
Willow					
Subtotal:		77	\$3,902,283.91	38	\$4,961,009.08
Totals		Assignments:	115		
		Total Wages:	\$8,863,292.99		

These figures include all emergency hire wages for the year 2010. Individual as well as crew wages shown are payments made to zip codes. Designated Crews are shown by designator.

2010 Incident Management Team Assignments

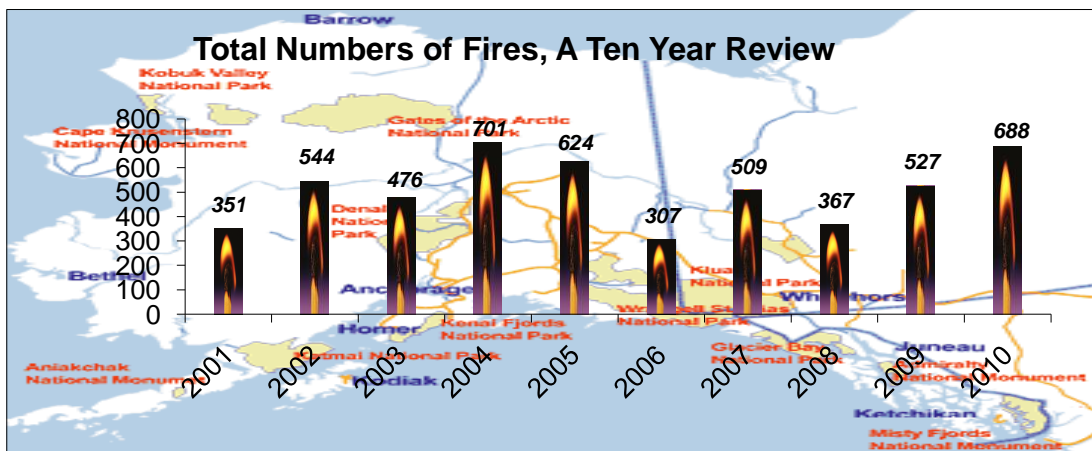
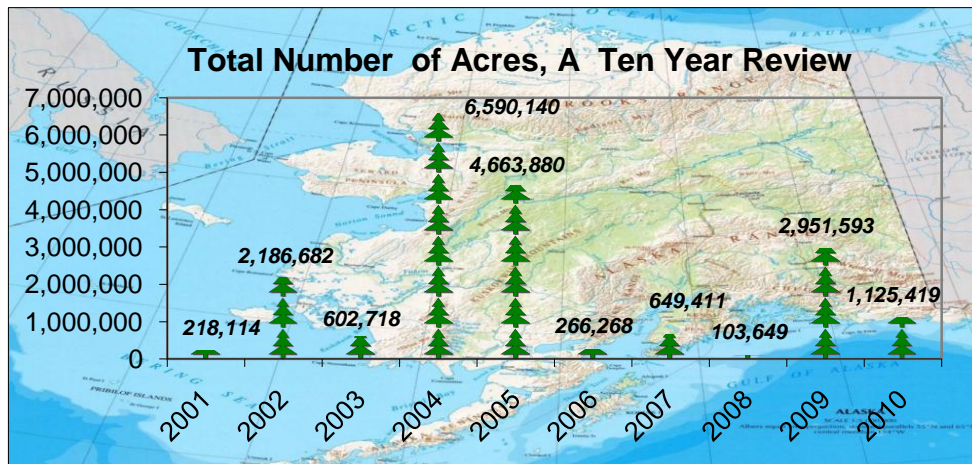
Eagle Trail	Rob Allen	T2
Delta Complex	ORCA/Ken Paul	T2
Preposition FBKS	WA1/Bob Johnson	T2

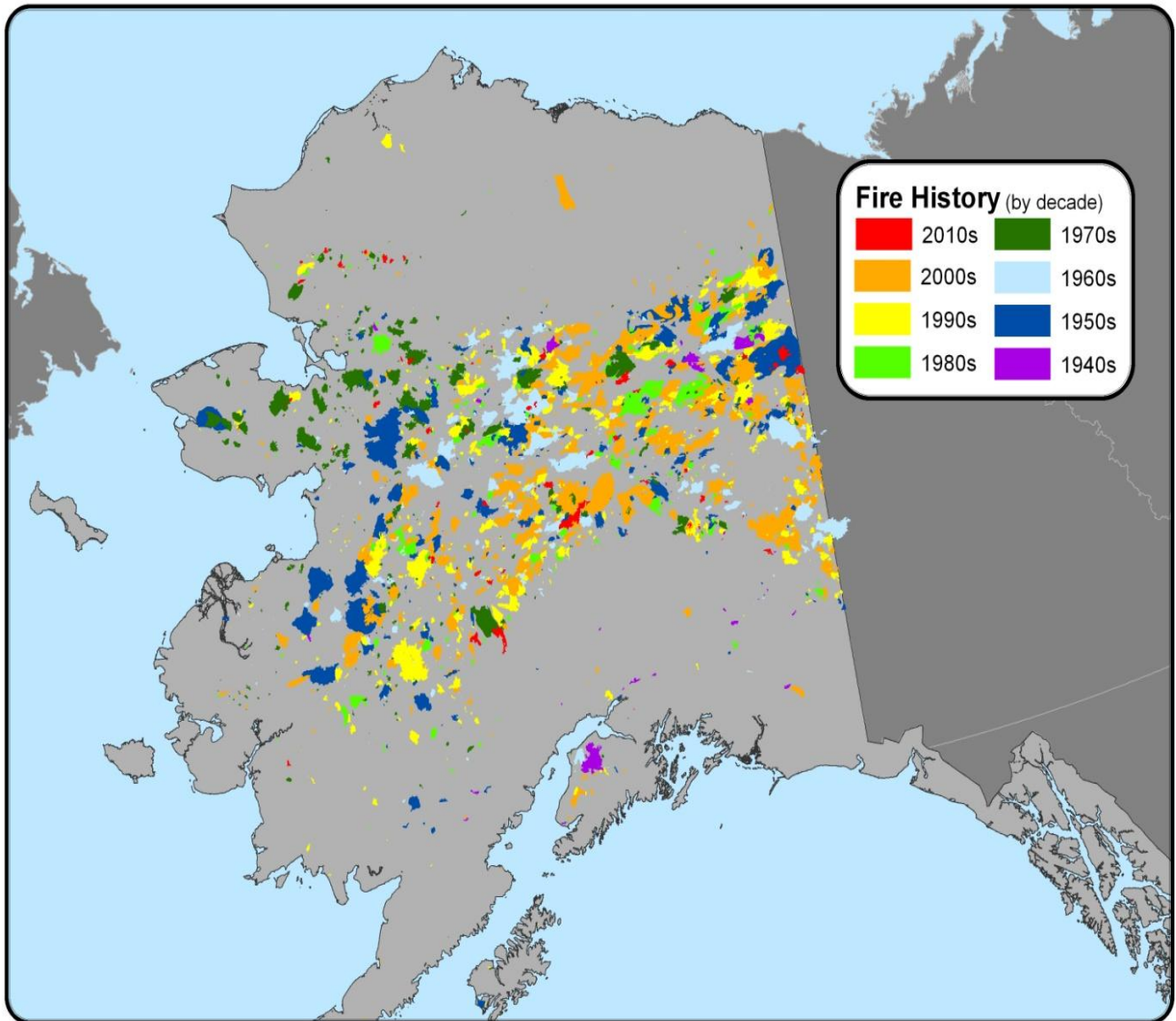
Lower 48 Crews Assigned in Alaska

25 T1 IHC for 82 Assignments

2010 Overhead Orders

3461 Overhead Orders filled
 2079 Filled by Alaskans
 1382 Filled by L48 Resources
 112 Unable to fill
 336 Cancelled
 316 Alaska Resources to L48 Assignments





Statistic Information provided by the Predictive Services Unit - Alaska Interagency Coordination Center

