

ALASKA DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



SITUATION REPORT 23-219 • August 7, 2023

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SEOC 907.428.7100

<u>SEOC Preparedness Level</u> Level 2 – Wildland Fires	http://ready.alaska.gov	<u>National Terrorism Advisory System:</u> Read the NTAS Bulletin here
<u>Maritime Security (MARSEC)</u> Level:1- Minimum Appropriate Security Measures	WHO Novel Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19): 2019 Novel Coronavirus	<u>Alaska Military Installation Force Protection Level:</u> FPCON Bravo

(Significant changes from previous situation reports are red.)

Significant Issues:

Juneau Suicide Basin Flooding

Juneau Suicide Basin glacial outburst caused significant flooding on the Mendenhall Lake and River over the weekend far beyond anything Juneau has seen before from its annual outburst floods. This caused emergency evacuations and significant damage to the riverbanks, as well as homes and infrastructure leaving the Mendenhall Riverbanks remain highly unstable. One home was lost in the river and two buildings are condemned at this time. The SEOC met with the City and Borough of Juneau who has issued a local disaster declaration for the flooding and will continue to assist with mass care and declaration support.

Statewide Wildland Fire Situation:

There was significant Wildland Fire activity over the weekend with over 120 new fire starts. The hot, dry, and windy conditions in the Fairbanks area this weekend resulted in increased activity on several existing fires. Among the many fires producing an impressive and very visible smoke column and ash fall from the Delta Fire (#221), which is burning on Fort Greeley southeast of Fairbanks and a Red Flag Warning remains in effect today for the area impacted by the fires in the Anderson Complex. Temperatures are expected to be in the high 80s with low humidity. AICC is at Preparedness Level 3 and the nation is still at Preparedness Level 4 limiting any additional resources coming from the lower 48. There are now 307 active fires in the state and 14 staffed, with Red Flag warnings still in effect throughout the state. SEOC is currently focused on supporting fires impacting the urban interface and requests form DOF&FP.

Fairbanks Area Fires:

Despite large fire growth over the weekend, Fairbanks North Star Borough did not make any changes in evacuation status. Upper Haystack Subdivision is still in evacuation GO status for Lost Horse Creek Fire as well as Lower Salcha River area from river mile 3 to 40 due to McCoy and Mosquito Creek fires. SEOC was in regular contact with Fairbanks North Star Borough and forestry throughout the weekend and will support with statewide resources as required.

Anderson Complex:

SEOC has a Division Supervisor deployed to the Anderson Complex to support the Borough Emergency Management. SEOC deployed the Mobile Emergency Operations Center yesterday to the Anderson Complex to provide the Incident Management Team a mobile command post facility as they manage the fire.

Delta Junction Area

SEOC was in contact with Volunteer Fire Chief in Delta Junction over the weekend, discussing fire concerns and possible evacuation plans. There are several fires now burning in this area. He is working closely with forestry and SEOC and the Mass Care Group is on standby to assist as necessary.

Statewide SEOC Fire Support:

SEOC has been in contact with Red Cross to support sheltering operations in both Boroughs as well as the Delta Junction area. A statewide Mass Care Group is on standby ready to assist as necessary. SEOC resource ordered to the Alaska National Guard for UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter support for fire suppression and resource ordered the Fairbanks National Guard Armory to serve as a mobilization center for incoming fire crews. Two wildland qualified firefighting vehicles with crew deployed to Anderson over the weekend and have been assisting forestry with fire suppression efforts.

State of Alaska Department of Health (DOH)

The DOH stands ready to assist with all aspects of public health and in the event of a public health emergency, supported by the SEOC and other state departments as required. For current information, see:
<https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Pages/default.aspx> <https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Emergency/Pages/prepared/default.aspx>

NTAS Bulletin

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has issued an updated National Terrorism Advisory Bulletin. The updated bulletin can be viewed at the below link.
To read current or expired advisories, click the link below: <https://www.dhs.gov/national-terrorism-advisory-system>

Travel Alerts and Conditions

Alaska Department of Transportation - many cameras down due connectivity issues.
For current driving conditions dial 511 or link to <https://511.alaska.gov/>

Barry Arm Landslide / Tsunami Risk

For the latest information on the Barry Arm Landslide and Tsunami risk, click here:
<https://dggs.alaska.gov/hazards/barry-arm-landslide.html>

Recent Earthquakes

USGS Earthquake Information: <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/>
National Tsunami Warning Center: <http://tsunami.gov/>

Alaska Volcanoes

Great Sitkin Alert Level: **Watch** and Aviation Color Code: **Orange**
Cleveland Alert Level: **Advisory** and Aviation Color Code: **Yellow**
Aniakchak Alert Level: **Advisory** and Aviation Color Code: **Yellow**
Shishaldin Alert Level: **Watch** and Aviation Color Code: **Orange**
Trident Alert Level: **Advisory** and Aviation Color Code: **Yellow**

For Alaska Volcano updates, go to: <https://www.avo.alaska.edu/>

Air Quality Index (AQI) Advisories

Air Quality Advisory still in effect for Central and Eastern Alaska and for South Central Alaska; and Southeast Alaska until 2 PM AKDT on **Tuesday August 8, 2023**. **Severe smoke impacts within the Tanana Flats/Valley. With wind air quality will vary between GOOD and HAZARDOUS.**

For the most up to date Air Quality Index Advisories: <http://dec.alaska.gov/Applications/Air/airtoolsweb/Home/Index>

Spills of Oil and Hazardous Substances

The ADEC Spill Prevention and Response page is located at:
http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill_information/response/

Alaska Cyber Security Information

State Employees may sign up for cyber security notifications and alerts at
<https://oit.alaska.gov/security>
CISA-Cybersecurity Services and Tools: www.cisa.gov/free-cybersecurity-services-and-tools

Alaska Wildland 2023 Fire Season:

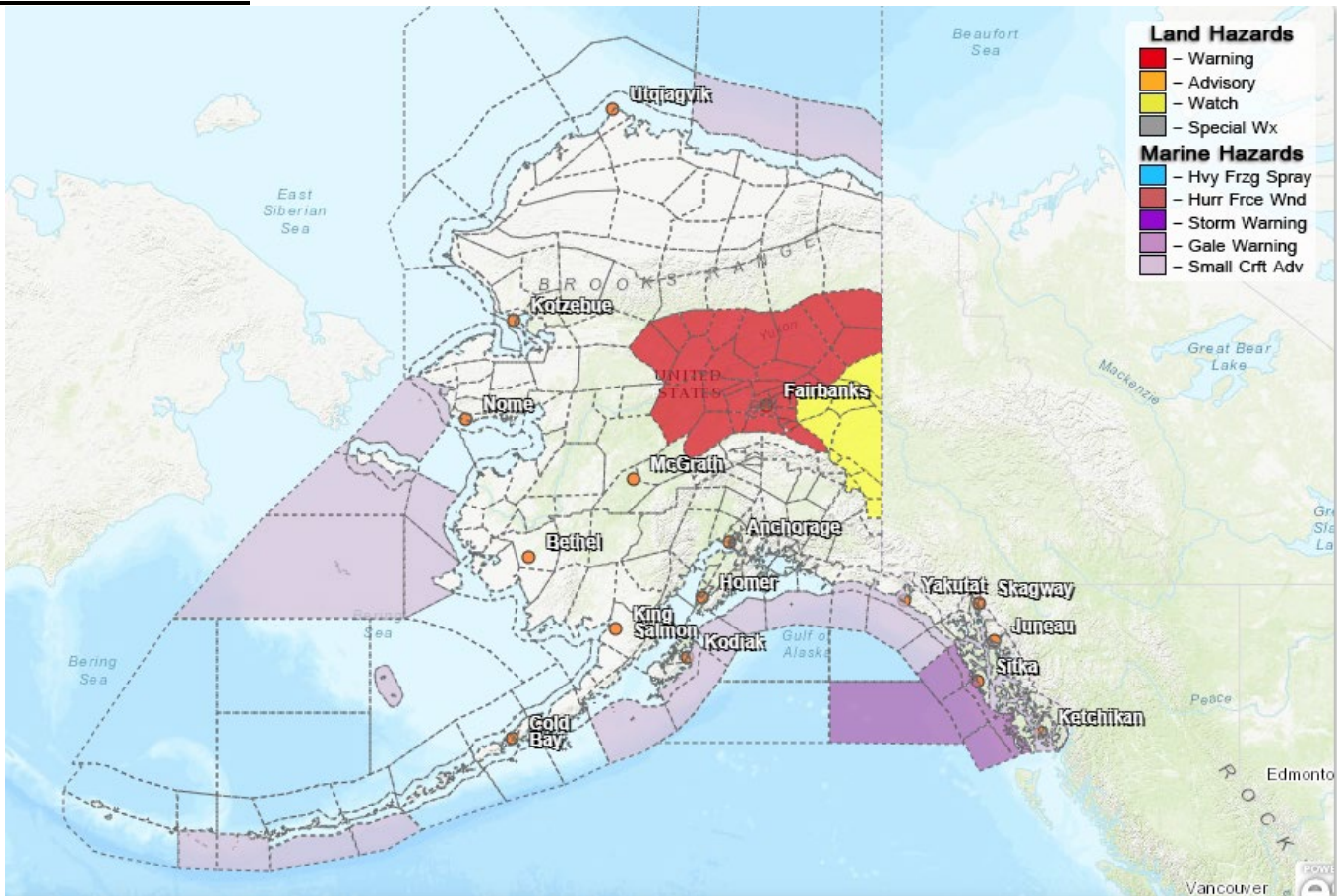
The Alaska Interagency Coordination Center is at Preparedness **Level 3**

- Total Fires: **151**
- Total Acres: **114,300** ****5 new fires in the 24 hours****

Fuel and Fire Behavior Advisory for Central Interior, Eastern Interior, and Copper River Basin is below and valid through August 18, 2023:
<https://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/weather/outlooks/FFBehavior.pdf>

There are currently **307** active fire(s) with **14** staffed fire(s)
Current fire information is at <https://fire.ak.blm.gov/> or <https://akfireinfo.com/>

Significant Weather:



The following Warnings, Watches, and/or Advisories have been issued:

Red Flag Warnings:

- Central Interior - Warning in effect from 4:00PM this afternoon through midnight tonight for lightning.
- Yukon Flats and Surrounding Uplands - Warning in effect from 4:00PM this afternoon through midnight tonight Frequent lightning could cause new fire starts. Thunderstorms will cause gusty and erratic winds in the late afternoon and evening.
- Middle Tanana Valley - Watch in effect for highs in the 80's and 90's with wind gusts up to 15 mph. from 2:00PM this afternoon through midnight tonight.

Dense Smoke Advisory

- Central Interior, Deltana and Tanana Flats, and Middle Tanana Valley – In effect until noon today causing hazardous driving conditions due to low visibility. Dense smoke is hazardous to health.

For more information and the most current weather, go to: <http://www.weather.gov/arh>.

The Next Situation Report will be **8 August 2023**. A significant change in the situation or the threat level will prompt an interim report. This report is posted on the internet at <https://ready.alaska.gov/sitrep>.

To register for email distribution, go to <http://list.state.ak.us/mailman/listinfo/dhsem.situation.report>.

Direct questions regarding this report to the SEOC at 907-428-7100 or seoc@alaska.gov