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Department of  
Natural Resources

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

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## State forestry issues campfire restrictions across much of Alaska

**(Fairbanks, AK)** – Due to extreme wildfire danger across much of Alaska, current wildfire activity around the state, and limited resources available to respond to new wildfire starts, the Alaska Division of Forestry is restricting all campfires on state, private and municipal lands within the following boroughs and geographical regions effective immediately.

- Copper River Valley, including Glennallen south to Valdez
- Denali Borough
- Fairbanks North Star Borough
- Kenai Peninsula Borough
- Matanuska-Susitna Borough
- Municipality of Anchorage
- Tanana Valley, including Delta, Nenana, Northway, Tanacross, Tok and surrounding communities.

All campfires, even those in established fire pits or rings in designated campgrounds, are prohibited until further notice. This includes cooking, warming or signaling fires. The restriction does NOT apply to charcoal grills, gas grills and backpacking or camp stoves that use fuel or compressed canisters.

Burn suspensions for burn permits will also remain in place, prohibiting open debris burning and the use of burn barrels in Division of Forestry protection areas. The suspensions will stay in place until conditions moderate.

As of Monday, there were 122 active wildfires in Alaska, 19 of which are staffed with more than 2,000 firefighting personnel, most of which are from the Lower 48. To date this season, 385 wildfires have burned 892,544 acres in Alaska.

Given the number and size of wildfires currently burning in the state, Alaska's fire managers ask residents and visitors to adhere to the restriction on campfires to help prevent any additional human-caused wildfires in the state. Firefighting resources are stretched extremely thin, and any new fires will put a further strain on the limited resources currently available to respond to new wildfire. We all need to do our part to ensure we have a safe fire season.

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