**National Park Service**
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alagnak Wild River, Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve

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# **Alaska National Parks** News Release

June 19, 2013
For Immediate Release
Contact: Morgan Warthin (907) 644-3418

## All Open Fires Prohibited in Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alagnak Wild River, and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve

**King Salmon, Alaska -** Effective immediately, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alagnak Wild River, and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve are prohibiting the use of all open fires in the park and preserves due to high fire danger. This order will be in effect until the weather and fire conditions change. The period of this ban will generally correspond to fire ban decisions proposed by the Bristol Bay Borough Fire Department but will be managed independently based on the wide geographic range and diversity of available fuels within the various Katmai area drainages.

The term Open Fires refers to any flame source not immediately extinguishable or controllable and applies to any form of wood or charcoal-based fire, even in established fire rings. Backpacking or camp stoves using fuel or compressed canisters which can be regulated and shut off are still permitted for use.

Continued hot, dry and windy weather throughout southwest Alaska has contributed to a recent coastal fire near Cape Douglas and red flag warnings from the NOAA Weather Service. There are 33 active fires burning in Alaska, including several in or near the parks and preserves. Visitors and residents are asked to assist fire managers by following fire prohibitions and preventing additional fire starts.

The Bristol Bay Borough has enacted a similar burn ban, currently scheduled through June 24th when conditions will again be analyzed.

For statewide fire information visit fire.ak.blm.gov

Updated park information is posted on the web at www. nps.gov/katm, and www.nps.gov/ania. Information can also be obtained by calling (907) 246-2113 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily.

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