



Alaska National Parks Wildland Fire Information

Noatak National Preserve & Kobuk Valley National Park July 4, 2012 @ 12:00 pm

Although much of Alaska has experienced a lighter-than-usual wildfire season, the northern interior to the North Slope continues to be warm, dry, and ripe for ignitions. Those ignitions came yesterday when eight new lightning-caused wildfires were reported in Noatak NP and one in Kobuk Valley NP. Different than July 3, today temperatures across the far north have cooled and fires have mellowed due to more moisture in the air.

Noatak NP, Kungiakrok Creek Fire – ref#321

- Located 38 miles northeast of Noatak and south of Tulugak Lake
- 400 acres
- On 7/3 Alaska Fire Service reported a 100% active fire running in tundra to the west.
- Eight smokejumpers are providing protection to two cabins and two sensitive sites (native allotments) located two miles north of the fire.
- Jumpers are working hard to minimize fire growth to the north and west.

Noatak NP, Kayat Fire – ref#316

- Located 16 miles northeast of Noatak and 5,000 feet south of Eli River
- 200 acres
- Upon seeing smoke, a Noatak resident reported the fire on 7/3
- Alaska Fire Service responded and reported a 100% active fire perimeter, running with group torching in tundra and brush, spreading fast to the east.
- Due to the fire's close proximity to the village, eight smokejumpers are currently working hard to put the fire out.

*At this time all of the fires listed below do not threaten life, property, or sensitive sites. Alaska Fire Service will map the fires from the air and document fire behavior observations. Four fires (designated with an *) will be accessed for potential resource needs over the long duration. Due to the intense fire season in the lower 48, Alaskan firefighters are being prioritized and some have and will be sent south to help out.*

Noatak NP, Avan Creek Fire – ref#326

- Located 40 miles northeast of Noatak and nearly 7 miles north of the Noatak River
- 20 acres
- A Red Dog Mine employee reported the fire on 7/3

Noatak NP, Ikalukrok Creek Fire – ref#325

- Located 30 miles north of Noatak and 15 miles northwest of the Noatak River
- 1 acre
- A Selawik Trooper reported the fire on 7/3

*** Noatak NP, Agashashok #1 Fire – ref#324**

- Located 22 miles east of Noatak
- 20 acres
- A Selawik Trooper reported the fire on 7/3

*** Noatak NP, Agashashok #2 Fire – ref#323**

- Located 19 miles southeast of Noatak
- 10 acres
- A Selawik Trooper reported the fire on 7/3

*** Noatak NP, Uvgoon Creek Fire #2 – ref#320**

- Located 23 miles northeast of Noatak in a 1999 burn
- Originally 50 acres, 100 acres as of 7/3 at 9pm
- Alaska Fire Service reported a 100% active fire burning in tundra and spreading to the west.

*** Noatak NP, Uvgoon Creek Fire #1 – ref#318**

- Located 23 miles northeast of Noatak in a 1999 burn
- Originally 50 acres, 300 acres as of 7/3 at 9pm
- Alaska Fire Service reported a 75% active fire perimeter, spreading to the north in black spruce and tundra

Kobuk Valley NP, Nekakte #2 – ref#317

- Located 24 miles northwest of Ambler and 56 miles northeast of Kiana in a 2012 burn that was declared out.
- 1 acre
- On 7/3 Alaska Fire Service discovered the fire while mapping other fires in the area. First reported burning in tundra, later that evening smokejumpers found neither smoke nor fire activity.

For more fire information, visit <http://www.nps.gov/noat/parkmgmt/currentfireinfo.htm> and <http://www.nps.gov/kova/parkmgmt/currentfireinfo.htm>

Do you know how to report a fire? Call 911 or 1.800.237.3633. You can also contact your nearest land manager. Visit the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center at <http://fire.ak.blm.gov/aicc.php> for more information.

For More Information,

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- Morgan Warthin, Regional Fire Communication and Education Specialist, morgan_warthin@nps.gov, 907.644.3418

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