

# McKinley Fire

**Update – Wednesday September 11, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m.**

John Thompson, Incident Commander



**Fire Information:** 907-313-9826

**Email:** [2019.mckinley@firenet.gov](mailto:2019.mckinley@firenet.gov)

**Web:** [www.akfireinfo.com](http://www.akfireinfo.com)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/AK.Forestry/>

**You Tube:** <https://bit.ly/2kskUfk>

**Acreage:** 3,288

**Containment:** 95%

**Personnel:** 217

**Start Date:** 8/17/2019

**Burn permit suspensions have been lifted for the Mat-Su Borough. Burn barrels and open burning are allowed with a permit. Details can be found at [www.akfireinfo.com](http://www.akfireinfo.com).**

Efforts will switch from suppression to repair as the majority of the fire area is placed into patrol and monitor status. Crews, along with heavy equipment made good progress repairing fireline in the southern part of the fire. Firefighters will continue to mitigate hazards such as weakened trees and pockets of burning duff 100 feet around structures in the Yancey East and West areas of the fire.

Starting today, equipment will be utilized to remove the decks of logs along the Parks Highway. The wood currently located in the Department of Transportation (DOT) right of way will be moved to the treeline. Please respect private property. DO NOT cut wood on private property unless you have permission from the owner.

All power is restored to the area and any residents experiencing issues should call the Matanuska Electric Association. Residences from milepost 81.5 to 92 of the Parks Highway are still in evacuation "Level 1-Ready." The Parks Highway speed limit remains 45 mph through the fire vicinity.



Removal of trees along the Parks Highway corridor.  
Photo: Mike McMillan

**Extreme caution and a high level of awareness is urged for residents within the fire perimeter. Deep pockets of burning organic material called ashpits, along with snags pose significant dangers to anyone inside the burn area.**

**Disaster Assistance:** There are several agencies with information on disaster assistance; please visit Alaska Wildland Fire Information for detailed contact information: <https://bit.ly/2lzpyZu>

**Today is the last day the Disaster Assistance Center will be open to register in person for the State of Alaska Individual Assistance** at the Willow United Methodist Church (29286 Parks Hwy) Willow, AK 99688. The center will be closing at 2:00 p.m.

**Smoke forecasts can be found at:** [www.wildlandfiresmoke.net](http://www.wildlandfiresmoke.net)

**Rescinded Closure (Deshka Landing Fire):** The Willow Swamp area (Game Management Unit 14A) is open to the public effective at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, September 11. This area was previously closed due to the Deshka Landing Fire.