

# McKinley Fire

**Update – Friday September 13, 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>



**Containment:** 95%

**Personnel:** 184

**Acreage:** 3,288

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

**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 fire weakened trees pose significant dangers to anyone inside the burn area.**

The Northern Rockies Team 7, Type 2 Incident Management Team, is transitioning with a smaller, local Type 3 Management Team. Transfer of command will occur Saturday, September 14 at 7:00 a.m.

While the majority of the McKinley fire area is in patrol and monitor status, firefighters are still encountering previously undetected areas of heat and smokes are still visible from time to time. Engine crews will continue to extinguish these scattered pockets of heat held deep in the duff. Disposal of brush and slash piles along the Parks Highway and Mat-Su Borough right-of-ways will continue as the woody debris is chipped and ground using equipment such as chippers and masticators. One crew, the Chena Hot Shots, multiple engines, and heavy equipment will stay through the transition to continue with mop up along roadways and within 100-feet of structures.



Brush and slash pile clean-up along the Parks Highway corridor. Photo: Kaley Casey

Log decks along the Parks Highway have been moved back to the treeline. Please respect private property and do NOT cut wood on private property unless you have owner permission.

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.

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).

**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> The Disaster Assistance Centers are now closed. Individuals affected by the McKinley Fire can register online at [www.ready.alaska.gov](http://www.ready.alaska.gov). The deadline to apply for individual assistance is October 22, 2019.

**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.