



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# Fire Update

BLM Alaska Fire Service

P.O. Box 35005 1541 Gaffney Road, Fairbanks AK 99703-0005

Tel: 907-356-6500 [www.akfireinfo.com](http://www.akfireinfo.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Alaska Fire Information 907-356-5510**

**Date: June 18, 2020**

---

## Lightning Ignites One New Fire in Northeastern Interior

(Fairbanks, Alaska) –Fire behavior was relatively calm in northeastern Alaska but gusty winds overnight stirred some fire behavior. Lightning ignited one new fire burning on the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge. Three fires are staffed in northeastern Interior Alaska, but most fires in the region not threatening people or property are being monitored. Temperatures remain high in much of northeastern Alaska today, but scattered showers are expected to keep fire behavior moderate. Cooler temperatures, higher relative humidity and increased chances of wetting rain are forecast for the rest of the week into the weekend.

The **Tivehvun Lake Fire (#285)** was spotted by aircraft on Wednesday on the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge. The fire was reported as creeping and smoldering in a pocket of black spruce surrounded by tundra. It is estimated at .5 acre and is burning in a limited management area and will be monitored.

The **Porcupine Fire (#249)** – The fire is 60% contained as firefighters continue to work on building and securing firelines. Fire behavior was reported as low to moderate yesterday. Gusty winds last night caused some burned trees to fall and firefighters will walk the fireline today to make sure it is clear of blown down trees. The Baker River Hotshots arrived today and will focus on the eastern boundary, holding the fire where line has been constructed and building line where none exists. Fire crews continue to respond to spot fires outside firelines. Two Type 2 fire crews have been ordered to help with the large amount of mop up which will take place over the next few days. A boat is transporting crews to work areas, and two Fireboss scooper planes are on call to help reduce fire activity near fireline construction if needed. Eight smokejumpers are demobilizing from the fire to return to Fairbanks tonight. The Porcupine Fire started Saturday and is estimated at 185 acres burning about 17 miles northeast of Fort Yukon in the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge.

**Ninemile Lake Fire (#270)** – Firefighters continued to secure the fire's boundary today. The Ninemile Fire is burning in tundra, hardwoods and black spruce and is 75% contained with a 50 foot spray line complete around 95% of the perimeter. Containment and mop-up should be completed in approximately 4 shifts. The CATG Type 2 fire crew is scheduled to arrive today to continue building and securing fireline. Firefighters will also grid the fire by walking through and searching for hot spots and extinguishing them. Mop up will continue for the next few days. The Ninemile Lake fire was started by lightning on Monday and is estimated at 10 acres burning about 30 miles south of Fort Yukon.

For more information, contact the Alaska Interagency Fire Information Office at (907)356-5511.

###