





Middle Tanana Complex Monday July 11, 2022 Daily Update 11:30 AM





Total Acres: 57,934 - Yukon Creek (12,489), Marshall Mountain (0.3), Central Creek (4,050), Central Creek Airstrip (6,978), Porcupine Creek (12,115), South Fork (2,779), Gold Hub (10,694), California Creek (700), Gilles Creek (471)

Start Date: Various | Cause: Lightning

Location: Northeast of Delta Junction | Fuels: Timber, grass, understory, and brush

Operations: Smokejumpers have completed structure protection measures at cabins near Butte Creek in the Salcha River corridor. They are moving downriver to work on the structures near Flat Creek and begin installing hoses and pumps, removing flammable materials and hazardous fuels.

The Central Creek and Gold Hub fires are impacting Shaw Creek Road and adjacent powerlines. Yesterday on the southwest side of the Gold Hub Fire, heavy equipment operators constructed a dozer line from Shaw Creek Road to Shaw Creek. Fire personnel scouted potential locations for a dozer line on the fire's northeast side to try to stop it from moving further. Maintaining power and access to the mine are high priorities.

In the lower Goodpaster River corridor, the Crane Valley Hotshots continued implementing structure protection around cabins and buildings near the South Fork Fire. Near the Central Creek Airstrip Fire in the upper Goodpaster River corridor, the fire has moved closer to the unoccupied structures at the mouth of Central Creek. Crews continue to fly in periodically and check the sprinkler systems and pumps to ensure they are still operational. The Porcupine, Gilles, Marshall Mountain, and California Creek fires are being monitored.

Evacuations: On the Goodpaster River, mile 0 to river mile 8.6 is now in READY status. River mile 8.6 to river mile 33.9 is in SET status. From the confluence with the South Fork Goodpaster River to Seven Mile Creek is in READY. The group of cabins along the Goodpaster River at the mouth of Central Creek is in SET status.

Shaw Creek Road and the Pogo Mine area are in Ready status.

The residents off the road system and recreational cabins in the Middle Salcha River and Upper Salcha River Zones are in SET status. The Lower Salcha River remains in READY. When evacuation status changes, we will work with emergency management staff to make those announcements.

Weather: A Red Flag Warning is in effect through Monday night due to the potential for lightning. Rain yesterday delivered more than 2 inches of rain on most of the complex. Relative humidity and fuel moisture have increased. Rain will continue through the week and temperatures will become cooler.

Fire Behavior: Fire spread will be minimal today with lower temperatures and increased moisture. Fires will continue creeping and smoldering in surface fuels but are not expected to show much growth.

Temporary Flight Restrictions: Temporary Flight Restrictions are in place over the Gold Hub Fire. Flight restrictions are for any aircraft, including drones. If you fly, we can't!

Smoke: Visit https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook/fba6a113 for the current Smoke Outlook for Interior Alaska.

Fire Information:

Link for the recorded community meeting held last night: https://fb.watch/ebp-9NIJmW/

Fire Information Office Hours: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM

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Online: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8201/ | https://www.facebook.com/AK.Forestry/ | akfireinfo.com/