



Fire Update

[BLM Alaska Fire Service](#)

July 21, 2025

Crews continue mop up work on Tlozhavun and Turtle Fires; firefighters respond to and monitor additional fires northeastern Alaska

Crews continue extinguishing hotspots along the edge of existing fires in the BLM Alaska Fire Service (AFS) Upper Yukon Zone that covers the northeastern Alaska as fire managers keep a watchful eye toward new starts in the region. Two fires were discovered Sunday via remote sensing on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The **Ripple Fire (#468)** is approximately 2 acres in size, with creeping, backing, and isolated torching behavior observed. The **Sheenjok Fire (#467)** is approximately 7 acres in size with creeping, backing, and isolated torching behavior in white and black spruce observed. Both fires will be monitored by occasional BLM AFS flights over the area.

Cloudy, cooler weather with the potential for showers across the Upper Yukon Zone early in the week will help crews make progress towards their objectives.

Tlozhavun Fire (#448) – Incident staff continue to execute a full suppression strategy on the Tlozhavun Fire, which is located approximately 10 miles south of Fort Yukon. The fire is 22 acres in size and 80% contained. Crews extinguished hotspots within 100 feet of the perimeter Sunday and observed no smoke on the fire.

Today, firefighters will transition to gridding the entire fire. Gridding involves carefully walking the entire affected area in a structured pattern to detect hidden heat and extinguish any found hotspots.

Ptarmigan Complex – A Type 4 management organization is in place with firefighter and aviation resources assigned to the fires.

- Crews continued to mop up the north edge of the **Turtle Fire (#243)** on Sunday, making sure all hotspots were extinguished within 200 feet of the perimeter. Today, the Alaska Range Suppression Module and Crow Peak Wildland Fire Module will continue to work towards extinguishing all hotspots 300 feet in from the perimeter.
- The **Deadwood Fire (#214)**, **Birch Fire (#256)**, **Buckley Bar Fire (#264)**, and **Alligator Fire (#265)** all continue to be in monitor status.

Christian Fire (#255) – The Christian Fire, located on the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge approximately 50 miles north of Fort Yukon, was discovered June 20. Four personnel have been assigned to the 46,847-acre fire. Firefighters completed a burnout operation around a sensor site Sunday to protect it from fire. The fire will continue to be monitored and managed to allow it to function in its natural ecological role.

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The Bureau of Land Management Alaska Fire Service (AFS) located at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, provides wildland fire suppression services for over 240 million acres of Department of the Interior and Native Corporation Lands in Alaska. In addition, AFS has other statewide responsibilities that *include*: interpretation of fire management policy; oversight of the BLM Alaska Aviation program; fuels management projects; and operating and maintaining advanced communication and computer systems such as the Alaska Lightning Detection System. AFS also maintains a National Incident Support Cache. The Alaska Fire Service provides wildland fire suppression services for America's "Last Frontier" on an interagency basis with the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, USDA Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Military in Alaska.