NUSKA DIVISION OF FORESTRY B FIRE PHOTECTION

Nenana Ridge Complex Update Aug. 1, 2025

Bonanza Creek Fire (#238): 12,586 acres, 22% containment

Goldstream Creek Fire (#270): 20,483 acres, 47% containment

Personnel: 226

Forest roads in the Nenana Ridge Complex have restricted access. Only fire personnel will be allowed access to these areas due to ongoing fire activities. The following roads and any connecting roads fall under this road restriction; Nenana Ridge Road, Bonanza Creek Road, Maisch Logging Road and the Skinny Dick's logging roads.

Evacuation Information: All evacuation levels were downgraded Monday, July 28th by the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for the Nenana Ridge Complex.

Level 1 'READY':

- Inside the borough:
 - Zones include Standard Cache, Skinny Dick's Logging Road, Parks Highway MP 325- MP 338,
 Bonanza Creek Forestry Area and Nenana Ridge Forestry Road.
- Outside the Borough:
 - From the borough's western edge, 4.5 miles west; from Sled Road north for 7 miles from the Alaska Railroad. This includes Standard Creek Road and nearby timber harvest access areas.
 The areas west of the highway corridor from MP 317 to the borough boundary.
 - The areas east of the highway corridor from MP 311 to the borough boundary and to the Tanana River east of the Maich Logging Rd.

Fire Weather: A warming and drying trend started Thursday and will persist into the weekend for the Central Interior. Friday will be mostly clear over the area of the complex with temperatures from 68 to 78 degrees, relative humidity around 40%, and light and variable winds. No rain is in the forecast through Saturday.

Fire Update: Wet and muddy conditions on many portions of Bonanza Creek and Goldstream Creek fires kept firefighters off forest roads. Personnel started repairing dozer berms and other damage caused by suppression efforts in Little Goldstream Community. Excavators began spreading vegetative material over the indirect dozer line created on an old powerline easement leading off the Parks Highway. The objective is to construct visual and physical barriers to limit access. Spreading the material over the bladed area will lessen erosion. Water bars will be built on sloped areas to divert runoff. Equipment is being staged as areas are scouted for repair around both fires. Work will start once it is dry enough to work without causing more

damage. Fairbanks 1 and Nulato Hills crews worked to extinguish lingering hot spots on the south and southwestern edges of Bonanza Creek Fire.

Heavy equipment, hazard trees, ash pits, and highway traffic remain potential hazards. As hunting season approaches, hunters and recreators are asked to stay out of the fire areas due to ongoing safety concerns. Crews are still actively engaged in firefighting operations.

No Drone Zone: Flying drones near wildfires is illegal and extremely dangerous, often leading to the grounding of firefighting aircraft and potentially causing harm to firefighters and property. A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) is in place over the Nenana Ridge Complex. For more information go to https://tfr.faa.gov

Road Safety: As you drive the Parks Highway, you may not see much firefighting activity, but crews are working deeper in the fire area and are still accessing these areas via the highway. Please use extra caution and watch for firefighters and equipment, especially from MP 318 to 340. Pilot car operations are taking place through an active construction zone unrelated to fire activities. For more information about this construction project go to: https://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/parks319to325/. For real-time road updates, visit 511.alaska.gov.

More Information: For official updates, visit Alaska Wildland Fire Information at <u>akfireinfo.com</u> or follow <u>facebook.com/AK.Forestry.</u>

For the interactive Alaska Wildland Fire Information Map Series go here: https://arcg.is/1a0yT03 For video briefings and more fire-related content from the Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Protection, visit our YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/@AlaskaDNRDOF

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