

Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory

Much of the Interior Boreal Forest of Alaska

June 28, 2015



Subject: Cancel the Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory.

Discussion: Fuels have moderated in the eastern half of the state with an influx of moisture. Though precipitation was showery, and there are still pockets of dry fuels, the widespread extreme fine fuel moistures have fallen below critical levels. Ignitions have fallen to normal numbers, despite still seeing an ample number of lightning strikes.

Difference from normal conditions: The weather pattern has transitioned from one of extreme dry conditions to waves of moisture that are working their way through the southern and eastern parts of the state. In addition, a showery pattern with scattered thunderstorms throughout the state will help to keep conditions somewhat moderated in western Alaska as well.

Concerns to Firefighters and the Public:

- Despite precipitation, some areas are still quite dry, and could present very high burning conditions within a day or two of sunshine and drying.

Mitigation Measures:

- Keep updated weather forecasts in hand and in mind when attacking fires.
- Ensure that briefings highlight any warm and dry weather that will again decrease fine fuel moisture.
- Alert initial attack personnel to the need for effective anchor points, and accessible safety zones.
- Escape into the black should be a primary consideration with wind and rapidly spreading surface fires.
- Keep the public apprised of changes to fuel conditions in the area around their houses and the difficulty of stopping them once they start.

Area of Concern: Much of the Interior Boreal Forest of Alaska