



Swan Lake Fire

Wildfire Fact Sheet



Saturday, September 21, 2019 at 9:00AM

Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6387/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kpbalerts/>

Public Information Phone: (208) 391-3488

Email: 2019.swanlake@firenet.gov

Alaska Fire Info: <https://akfireinfo.com>

Kenai Peninsula Borough: <http://kpboem.com/>

Location: 5 miles northeast of Sterling, AK

Incident Command: Type 2 Northern Rockies Incident Management Team 4, Rick Connell, I.C.

Size: 167,164 acres

Containment: 68%

Personnel: 232

Current Status: Yesterday, crews continued to work on suppression repair and equipment backhaul operations in several locations around the fire. Sections of the fire perimeter continued to be monitored for hot spots by firefighters and when the weather allows by helicopter or unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). Two excavators are also being utilized to conduct suppression repair work. The structure protection group finished a majority of the pumps, hose, and equipment backhaul from the Cooper Landing area. The camp crew in Soldotna has been working hard to package and pallet the backhaul and get it sent on trucks back to the fire cache. The precipitation stopped by late afternoon but not before dropping over an inch of rain on the fire area. Fire behavior remained very low due to the rain and cooler conditions.

Planned Actions: Firefighters will continue to repair the fire suppression lines in several locations around the fire. Equipment backhaul will be completed where it still needs to be done. Suppression repair on the dozer line near Hidden Lake and the Kenai River will be done with an emphasis on erosion control and soil stabilization. Overnight rain showers are expected to end by the afternoon and it will remain dry until another system of rain moves through on Sunday afternoon. The continued precipitation and cool temperatures are expected to keep fire behavior and fire spread potential very low. The deep duff pockets and heavy fuels will continue to smolder and cause visible smoke in places.

Key Message: Residents and visitors need to be aware that hazardous conditions exist in the burned areas that can be difficult to see. Standing trees can weaken and fall as the fire burns the organic duff layer surrounding their roots. Any amount of wind will blow these trees down. The fire has burned very deep in some places, leaving hot ash pits behind. Please remember to keep pets and children close at hand and out of the burned area.

Restrictions/Closures: An area closure remains in effect for all refuge and national forest lands that have been burned. All recreation facilities along the Skilak Road, including campgrounds, trails, and day use areas remain closed. Information on these closures is available at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6387/>.

Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR): The current TFR in place for air space over part of the Swan Lake Fire (9/9687 NOTAM) will lessen impacts to local aviation operators. Remember that temporary flight restrictions also apply to unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) or drones. **If you fly, we can't!**

Cooperating Agencies: US Fish and Wildlife Service, State of Alaska Division of Forestry, US Forest Service, Alaska State Parks, Kenai Peninsula Borough, Central Emergency Services, Cooper Landing Volunteer Fire Department, Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Department of Transportation, Alaska Department of Fish & Game.