



# Division of Forestry

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

## United States Department of the Interior KENAI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

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**Shanta Creek Fire Information Update**  
**Saturday, July 18, 2009, 5:00 p.m.**  
**Fire Information: (907) 260-2338 or (907) 260-2342**

**Fire Information Websites:** <http://kenai.fws.gov> or [www.inciweb.org/incident/1724/](http://www.inciweb.org/incident/1724/)

**Fire E-mail Address:** [r7shanta@fws.gov](mailto:r7shanta@fws.gov)

## Shanta Creek Fire Posing No Threat to Built-up Areas

*Note: Starting Sunday, July 19, the Fire Info Center will publish just one update per day about the Shanta Creek Fire activities unless conditions change.*

Fire officials at the Shanta Creek Incident Command Post report that the fire did not spread on Saturday. Some pockets of fuel within the fire perimeter continued to smolder, but the fire did not advance. The fire management strategy has been to halt all movement to the west and north, but to allow the fire to move naturally to the south and southeast, helping to reduce heavy fuel loads of beetle-killed spruce and enhancing wildlife habitat quality.

Following the Alaska Fire Plan and Kenai National Wildlife Refuge direction, the fire is being managed to keep it within the “Limited” suppression zone. Since portions of the fire’s northern perimeter are close to the adjacent “Full” suppression zone, fire crews have been patrolling these areas to be sure that the fire does not spread into “Full Protection.”

The Kenai Peninsula Borough Office of Emergency Management has lifted the Level 1 Evacuation Notice yesterday, eliminating all evacuation notices for the Funny River Road Area.

In addition, the Kenai Peninsula Borough has opened a slash disposal site which residents within the Funny River Road area may utilize to drop off wood slash and woody debris only. No tires, trash or chemical disposal is allowed. Residents must first check into the Funny River Road Central Emergency Services Station 5 on Mile 17 Funny River Road. Please obey all signs and dispose of slash in designated areas only. The disposal site is open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

There are a total of 347 personnel currently assigned to the fire. This includes 5 Type 1 (Hotshot) crews and 4 Alaska Type 2 crews. There are 5 helicopters. All engines and bull

dozers have been released. The fire size remains at 13,151 acres. Resources continue to be released for return to their home unit or reassigned to other fires throughout the Nation.

With the recent spots of rain and the cooler temperatures, it would be easy to consider “Fire Season” finished. This is not the case. Fuels on the ground are still dry and fires can still start and get out of control. Outdoor burning is still prohibited. Please use precaution whenever working with or around fire.

Closure orders for trails or roads have not been issued as a result of the Shanta Creek Fire. **A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) remains in place.** This restriction bans non-fire associated aircraft from flying over or near the fire perimeter below 5,000 foot altitude within a 5 mile radius of the fire. Pilots may contact the FAA for further explanation of this restriction.

A Fire Information Center is open from 7:00 a.m. and staffed until 10:00 p.m. daily until further notice. The phone numbers are: (907) 260-2338 and (907) 260-2342.

For additional information on this incident, please visit the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge web site at <http://kenai.fws.gov>, then click on the link for the Shanta Creek Fire or visit the Shanta Creek Fire information on “InciWeb” at [www.inciweb.org/incident/1724/](http://www.inciweb.org/incident/1724/).

To comment or ask questions on the incident, please use the fire e-mail address at [r7shanta@fws.gov](mailto:r7shanta@fws.gov).

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