



# Division of Forestry

Alaska Department of Natural Resources



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

P.O. Box 2139  
Soldotna, Alaska 99669-2139  
(907) 262-7021

**Shanta Creek Fire Information Update**  
**Monday, July 20, 2009, 8:00 a.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)

## Fire Fighting Forces Reduced at Shanta Creek Fire

The Shanta Creek Fire is now mapped at 13,221 acres. Light rain fell on the fire area over most of Sunday. Many fire fighters have left to return home or to accept new assignments in other areas. 193 personnel remain. Little or no additional fire spread is predicted. Remaining crews are completing rehabilitation work on the defensive lines constructed to prevent fire movement to the north. These lines will continue to provide protection from future fires that might start close to the Full Protection zone south of Funny River Road.

Residents can expect to see isolated burning within interior portions of the fire and on the southeast corner of the fire. This could produce some smoke when weather conditions turn warmer and drier. Land managers stress that allowing this interior burning and some fire spread toward the mountains (away from town) will help to reduce heavy fuel loads of beetle-killed spruce and enhance wildlife habitat values.

The Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) Office of Emergency Management lifted the Level 1 Evacuation Notice on Friday, eliminating all evacuation notices for the Funny River Road Area.

The KPB has opened a slash disposal site at which residents within the Funny River Road area may drop off wood slash and woody debris. 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., seven days a week. Make your home fire-safe.

Clear needles, leaves and overhanging branches from your roof. Remove dead trees and slash from your property.

There are a total of 193 personnel still assigned to the fire. This includes 2 Alaska Type 2 crews. There are 3 helicopters. All bull dozers have been released; one engine remains.

Closure orders for trails or roads have not been issued as a result of the Shanta Creek Fire. **The 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.

The Fire Information Center remains open at the Skyview High School from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. The phone numbers are: (907) 260-2338 and (907) 260-2342. However, the Information Center will close at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 21. The public can call the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters at (907) 262-7021 or the Alaska Division of Forestry at (907) 260-4200 with questions.

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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