

John Boyle
Commissioner

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Department of
Natural Resources

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

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Annual Prescribed Burns on Delta Junction Bison Range

(Delta Junction, AK) – The Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Protection (DOF) and Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) are planning to conduct a prescribed burn at the Gerstle and Panoramic fields of the Delta Junction Bison Range between May 13 and June 10, depending on weather and fuel conditions. The prescribed burns will take place between mile 1408 and 1393 of the Alaska Highway. Using prescribed fire in this area helps provide enhanced habitat for bison, moose, and grouse. The prescribed burns also provide valuable, hands-on training for the division’s wildland firefighters as they prepare for the upcoming wildland fire season.

Firefighters from DOF along with Red Carded staff from ADF&G will use drip torches to ignite the fields. Burning will be based on weather conditions and availability of DOF staff to monitor the fire. There may be smoke on the Alaska Highway; signs will be posted to caution traffic.

“Our two agencies brought prescribed fire back to the Bison Range in 2017. This collaborative partnership shows how the State can expand our efficiency and capacity by combining staff and objectives,” said Department of Fish & Game’s **Statewide Lands and Refuges Program Coordinator Sue Rodman**. “ADF&G appreciates the support and expertise of the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection to pull off this project every spring.”

The Department of Natural Resources' mission is to develop, conserve, and maximize the use of Alaska's natural resources consistent with the public interest.

MEDIA CONTACTS

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