

John Boyle
Commissioner

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Department of
Natural Resources

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: **May 6, 2025**

Annual Controlled Burning Operations Start Soon

The Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Protection (DOF) is preparing for multiple prescribed burns in the Delta, Fairbanks, and Matanuska-Susitna Valley areas in the coming months. Burning operations can begin as early as May 5, weather and conditions permitting.

Burns are planned for the following areas:

- **Fairbanks:** Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, in partnership with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, as early as May 10.
- **Delta Junction:** Prescribed burns are planned for the Delta Junction Bison Range starting as early as May 10, and for the Delta Bison Range Spruce Stands beginning as early as June 1. These burns are a collaborative effort with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game.
- **Palmer:** Near the end of Maud Road, at the Kenny and Patti Barber Shooting Range, as early as May 7.
- **Wasilla:** At the end of W. Shirley Road off N. Sitze Road as early as May 5.

Annual prescribed burns offer multiple benefits for the 2025 fire season. Controlled burns safely manage dry, grassy fuels and provide crucial training for firefighters as they prepare for the coming season. Additionally, they foster collaboration with partners to improve overall habitat management.

Further details on individual prescribed burns will be released as they become available. All planned operations are dependent on safe weather and fuel conditions. While public impact is expected to be minimal, smoke may be visible in the Fairbanks, Delta, and Mat-Su areas during active burn periods. The Division of Forestry & Fire Protection is committed to developing, conserving, and maximizing the use of Alaska's natural resources in a way that aligns with the public interest.

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

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