



May 26, 2009
PR# 09-050

Fire Danger Remains Extremely High in Many Parts of Alaska

(ANCHORAGE, Alaska) – The Department of Public Safety, along with the Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry, is warning the public about the extreme fire dangers present in much of the state.

There are extreme fire danger concerns in the Upper Tanana Valley and along the Alaska Highway. A wildfire in the Upper Tanana Valley or along the Alaska Highway would cause a significant public safety concern due to the amount of homes in the area.

With sunny skies and warm temperatures around much of Alaska, many people are venturing outdoors to recreate. While out and about, keep in mind that 67 percent of wildfires in Alaska are human-caused. On average, there are 341 preventable wildfires in the state each year. Often times, the fires are started in areas near homes and businesses. An unattended campfire, road flare, burn barrel or even a carelessly discarded cigarette can be the source of a detrimental and potentially life-threatening wildfire.

DPS and DNR strongly encourage outdoor enthusiasts and motorist to be extremely mindful of the current fire dangers. If you see a wildfire, you should report it immediately! Report a wildfire by calling 911 or 1-800-237-3633.