

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Air Quality**

SITUATION REPORT

**AIR QUALITY ADVISORY
Central Interior AK #2010-04**

LOCATION(S) IMPACTED: Yukon Flats & Uplands.

TIME/DATE OF UPDATE: Thursday, August 19, 2010, 10:30 AM.

VALID TIME: Valid August 19 at 10:30 AM until August 20 at 4:00 PM.

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: Friday, August 20, 2010, 4:00 PM.

ADVISORY: Air Quality in the Yukon Flats and surrounding Uplands continues to be affected by the Canvasback Lake, Pat Creek and Three Sleep fires. Concentrations of particulate matter have varied at the monitor in Fort Yukon, but conditions have been **unhealthy for sensitive groups to unhealthy** at times over the last 24 hours. Fort Yukon and other villages near these fires will experience periods of smoke and potentially poor air quality conditions into the weekend.

The forecast for the Yukon Flats and surrounding Uplands is for mostly cloudy skies and isolated showers. Winds will continue to be from the west/southwest through today which will bring smoke into communities east of the fires. Winds will begin shifting to be from the east on Friday which should improve air quality for Fort Yukon and Birch Creek, but smoke may continue to impact Beaver and Stevens Village over the weekend.

SMOKE AND PUBLIC IMPACT: This is an area forecast, and as such is a general forecast for portions of Interior Alaska. Smoke intensity will vary depending on precise location and local wind flow patterns. Smoke concentrations will be such that they could impact public health at times. Keep in mind that areas immediately downwind of any fire will experience **hazardous** levels of smoke. It is advised that travelers check local weather as smoke conditions may vary considerably from one locality to the next. The most recent weather observations may be found on National Weather Service's homepage at <http://pafc.arh.noaa.gov/obs.php>.

CURRENT BURN RESTRICTIONS: None.

DEC advises anyone with respiratory illness or heart disease, the elderly, and children to avoid exposure to smoke. All others are cautioned to avoid outdoor activities or physical exertion when conditions reach unhealthy levels, as defined below:

The following table is the Air Quality Index for Particle Pollution.

Index Values	Levels of Health Concern	Cautionary Statements
0-50	Good	None
51-100	Moderate	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion.
101-150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	People with heart or lung disease, the elderly and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.
151-200	Unhealthy	People with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should avoid prolonged exertion; everyone else should limit prolonged exertion.
201-300	Very Unhealthy	People with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should avoid any outdoor activity; everyone else should avoid prolonged exertion.
Over 300	Hazardous	Everyone should avoid any outdoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should remain indoors.

When air quality data is unavailable, the following **Air Quality Smoke Reference Guide** may be used to estimate air quality levels and potential health impacts:

Visibility	Air Quality
10+ miles	Good
6 - 9 miles	Moderate
3 - 5 miles	Unhealthy for sensitive groups
1.5 - 2.5 miles	Unhealthy
0.9 - 1.4 miles	Very Unhealthy
0.8 miles or less	Hazardous

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For information on the Air Quality in Fairbanks, visit the Fairbanks North Star Borough at <http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/airquality/>.

The Municipality of Anchorage and DEC have launched a real-time Air Quality Information website – <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/aaqm/Default.htm>

For information on Wildfire Smoke from the Department of Health and Social Services, visit their website at <http://www.epi.alaska.gov/eh/wildfire/default.htm>.

For information on Wildfire Smoke from the Department of Environmental Conservation, Air Quality Division, visit the website at <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/smokemain.htm>.

For information on road conditions around Alaska, visit the Road Traveler Information System at <http://511.alaska.gov/>.

For information on this advisory, contact Cindy Dettmer with the Division of Air Quality, at 907-269-7676.

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NOTIFICATION LIST:

**Yukon Flats &
Uplands**

Fort Yukon

Venetie

Birch Creek

Beaver

Stevens Village

Chalkyitsik

Circle

Central

Twelvemile Summit

Circle Hot Springs

Eagle Summit