

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**  
**Division of Air Quality**  
**AIR QUALITY ADVISORY**  
**Central and Eastern Alaska #2024-F3**  
**Tuesday June 18, 2024**

**LOCATION(S) IMPACTED:** Central and Eastern Alaska.

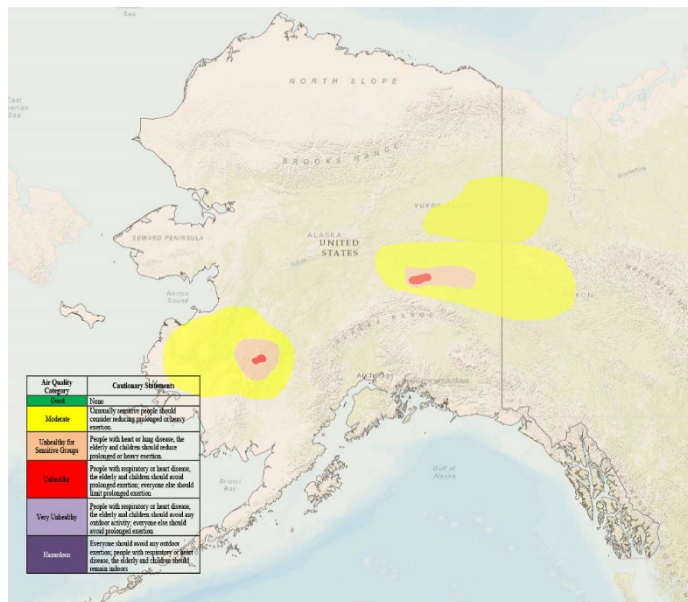
**TIME/DATE OF UPDATE:** Tuesday June 18, 2024, 8:00 AM

**VALID TIME:** Tuesday June 18, 2024, 8:00 AM to Thursday June 20, 2024, 2:00 PM, advisory will be issued until end of the event.

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** Thursday June 20, 2024, 2:00 PM, if needed.

**ADVISORY:** The McDonald Fire, located in the Tanana Flats southeast of Fairbanks, has become an active smoke producer since late yesterday. Low-level smoke will affect communities near the McDonald Fire. During the evening hours, smoke will settle in the flats, impacting a larger number of communities in the area. We also expect increased smoke production from a few fires in the Yukon Flats during the advisory period. Currently, the smoke will move east into Canada.

Air quality in the region will fluctuate between **GOOD** and **UNHEALTHY**, with downstream areas of the fires experiencing the most significant impacts until the smoke is lifted and carried away by transport winds aloft. The highlighted areas in the image below indicate the forecasted impacted regions associated with this advisory. Refer to the table below for more guidance on Air Quality Categories and Cautionary Statements.



Be aware that areas immediately downwind of any fire will experience **HAZARDOUS** levels of smoke. Generally, worse conditions occur overnight and during the early morning hours, as the atmosphere cools and brings smoke to the surface. During the day, surface heating will mix smoke and carry it upwards, temporarily improving air quality.

**SMOKE AND PUBLIC IMPACT:** This is an area forecast, and as such is a general forecast for portions of Southwestern 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. 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 for the surrounding impacted areas may be found on the Federal Aviation Administration Weather Cams homepage at <https://weathercams.faa.gov/>.

**In smoke impacted areas, DEC advises people with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should avoid prolonged exertion; everyone else should limit prolonged exertion.**

The following table contains the cautionary statements for the Air Quality for Particle Pollution.

Air Quality Category	Cautionary Statements
Good	None
Moderate	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion.
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	People with heart or lung disease, the elderly and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.
Unhealthy	People with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should avoid prolonged exertion; everyone else should limit prolonged exertion
Very Unhealthy	People with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should avoid any outdoor activity; everyone else should avoid prolonged exertion
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 this advisory, contact Mark Smith with the Division of Air Quality at 907-269-7676.