

This just in . . .

Native village crews have helped stop a number of potentially serious wildland fires this year, including several near rural communities. Of nearly 100,000 acres burned to date, a pair of blazes near Aniak consumed nearly 50,000 acres, but are now contained.

Village crews currently on fire assignments include: Ambler, Tetlin, Tanacross and Tok. Crews that have worked fires but have been released include: Galena; Nulato #1 and 2; Hooper Bay #1, 2, and 3; Nondalton; Mentasta; Fort Yukon #1 and 2; Venetie; Eagle #1; Nikolai, Rampart, Minto, Tanana #1; Nenana; Lower Kalskag; Upper Kalskag; Sleetmute; Aniak; and Northway #2.

State and federal fire managers say 40 fires are currently burning in Alaska, although cooler weather is keeping fire activity relatively low for the moment.