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Commissioner

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Department of  
Natural Resources

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STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

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## Public urged not to drive on Fairbanks forestry roads during breakup

**(Fairbanks, AK)** – In what is an annual rite of spring in the Interior, the Fairbanks Area Forestry office is asking the public to avoid driving on select Tanana Valley State Forest roads from May 1 to May 29, 2023.

Affected logging roads include Cache Creek, Nenana Ridge, Rosie Creek, Skinnys, Bonanza, Standard Creek, Two Rivers and Mosquito Creek.

The silt-based roads in the Fairbanks area become extremely soft and muddy during spring breakup, which makes them susceptible to damage from vehicles and ATVs. Traffic in these tenuous conditions creates ruts, which channels runoff from snow melt and causes roads to wash out. Some roads become impassable and motorists risk getting stuck and having their vehicles mired in mud up to their axles.

“If roads are severely damaged by traffic and/or runoff during spring breakup, it can be very costly fix them later - and traffic will be restricted until they are repaired,” said Fairbanks Area Resource Forester Andrew Allaby. “Getting stuck or ruining a road at this time of year just isn’t worth it.”

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