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Commissioner

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Department of  
Natural Resources

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: June 10, 2022

## Chena River Shooting Range now closed to incendiary devices

**(Fairbanks, AK)** – The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR) has issued a Director’s Order determining immediate restriction of the use of incendiary ammunition and similar devices at the Chena River Shooting Range located at 36.5 mile of Chena Hot Springs Road.

Incendiary ammunition includes tracers and flares, as well as exploding targets designed to detonate when struck by a bullet.

This decision was made for the safety of the public due to the severe fire danger in the area and a history of fires in the area as recent as June 8, 2022.

“The decision to issue a Director’s Order for immediate closure to incendiary devices is for several reasons that are listed in the D.O., but the primary reason is for the public’s health and safety,” said Ian Thomas, Superintendent of the Northern Region of DPOR.

The determination is supported by the following:

- 1) Due to the extreme hazardous fire conditions in the area that would promote aggressive fire behavior and growth.
- 2) Due to the semi-remote nature of the location that increases response time for firefighters in the event of a human caused wildfire event.
- 3) Due to the potential for a large-scale event that would threaten park infrastructure, private inholdings, and the safety of the public.

Directors Order Number 336 was issued pursuant to Alaska Statute: 11 AAC 12.335 (Closures and use management) due to the concern for public health and safety and will be rescinded when fire danger is reduced.

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