

# State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources



Public Information Center  
550 W. 7th Ave., Ste 1260  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: 907.269.8400  
Fax: 907.269.8901  
TTY: 907.269.8411

July 28, 2016

## McHugh fire cause determined to be unextinguished campfire

(Anchorage, AK) – The Division of Forestry announced today that the cause of the McHugh Fire was an unextinguished campfire. The McHugh wildfire began July 16 in Chugach State Park, south of Anchorage and adjacent to the Seward Highway. The point of origin of the escaped fire was north of the McHugh Creek parking lot, off the McHugh trail system and deep in a ravine. The fire was started in an area not commonly used by hikers and not in an established campfire ring.

Escaped campfires are preventable. Before leaving a campfire unattended, ensure it is fully extinguished by dousing with water, stirring and dousing again until no heat is present.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is encouraged to contact the Division of Forestry Fire Investigator at 907-761-6340.

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