

September 9, 2016

Wildland fire risk reduction planned on JBER near Stuckagain Heights

(Anchorage, AK) – The Division of Forestry will begin a fuels reduction project on Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson starting Monday, Sept. 12 and continuing for two to three weeks. Crews will build a shaded fuel break designed to reduce wildfire risk on the Anchorage Hillside.

During the project, forestry crews and forestry technicians will cut, pile and burn dead trees and woody material along the 100-foot wide fuel break that will extend along the JBER property line. The fuel break will begin where the JBER property line intersects with the North Gasline/Powerline trails and extend east past the Dome Trail.

The project area borders the Stuckagain Heights subdivision where wildland fire is a significant concern. While the Anchorage Fire Department has worked with homeowners to educate them about building and maintaining a defensible space around their homes, the neighborhood is bordered by heavily-forested lands owned by the military and Chugach State Park. A wildfire that ignites on these lands could pose a risk to adjacent private lands.

The best defense from a wildland fire is to be prepared and to take actions prior to an incident. Homeowners interested in defensible space recommendations can download the Firewise Alaska guide at http://forestry.alaska.gov/Assets/uploads/DNRPublic/forestry/pdfs/home/firewise09.pdf.

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