



Date: 07/16/2025

Subject: 72 Hour Report Ninetyeight Fire Boating Accident

To: Region 10 Acting Regional Forester

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Location: Ninetyeight Fire, southeast Fairbanks, Alaska

Date of occurrence: July 11, 2025

Time of occurrence: approximately 0900

Activity: Fire suppression

Number injured: Three red medicals. Two were treated and released from hospital, one admitted to hospital. Two yellow non-life-threatening injuries examined and treated on scene.

Number of fatalities: None

Property damage: 2 boats

Narrative: On July 11, 2025 a Region 5 IHC was being transported up the Salcha River to continue their work on the Ninetyeight Fire when two air-boats collided. All the passengers were ejected into the river. Five firefighters were initially injured in the incident. Two firefighters were treated on scene and three were transported to Fairbanks Memorial Hospital. Once in the hospital, two of the firefighters were examined, treated with minor injuries, and released. However, one firefighter remains in the hospital with further evaluation and treatment needed.

As part of an interagency collaboration, the Alaska Fire Service, Bureau of Land Management and US Forest Service are drafting a delegation for an interagency Facilitated Learning Analysis team to respond. They will be tasked with capturing and sharing the lessons learned from this event.

Sincerely,

Kyle Cowan
Alaska Fire Service

cc: Sarah Fisher, Jaime Gamboa, Shane Jeffries, Grant Bebee, Kevin Pendergast

