



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Small locomotive engine fire extinguished

Railroad, Anchorage fire department respond within minutes

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – At approximately 8:15 a.m. today, a small electrical fire broke out on an Alaska Railroad (ARRC) locomotive (#4318). The engine was part of a static passenger train in use for food and beverage service training. ARRC mechanical personnel at the scene responded immediately to put the fire out with fire extinguishers. Passenger Operations personnel also called 911 as a precautionary measure. The Anchorage Fire Department responded, sending several fire engines and emergency vehicles to the Anchorage Historic Depot on 1st Avenue, where the static train is parked.

Approximately 40 people were onboard the train, where onboard catering training was underway. The Alaska Railroad food and beverage contractor, ESS, was serving customers and railroad employees breakfast. Everyone on board the train was evacuated and no one was hurt.

ARRC will replace Locomotive 4318 with another locomotive. The locomotive provides power to the train. Onboard food and beverage training was scheduled for today and tomorrow (May 8-9). Breakfast service today is cancelled. Lunch service today may continue as planned, depending on when the locomotive replacement occurs. Breakfast and lunch training service tomorrow will continue as planned.

The static train at the depot is not scheduled to provide passenger transportation and the incident does not impact any passenger service schedules. The railroad's daily summer passenger season gets underway Saturday, May 11. In preparation, ARRC conducts annual dining service training with ESS to ensure excellent quality standards.

The static train consists of the locomotive and six passenger railcars, which include two bi-level passenger cars, one single-level passenger car, a bistro (dining) car, and a baggage car. None of these railcars were affected by the fire on the locomotive.

The Alaska Railroad owns 28 [SD7OMAC locomotives](#), (AlaskaRailroad.com > Projects > Systemwide Projects) which comprise more than half of ARRC's fleet of 51 locomotives. Locomotive 4318 will be removed from service for repairs. More information about the railroad's [passenger service business](#) is available online (AlaskaRailroad.com > CORPORATE (fact sheets at the bottom of page).

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