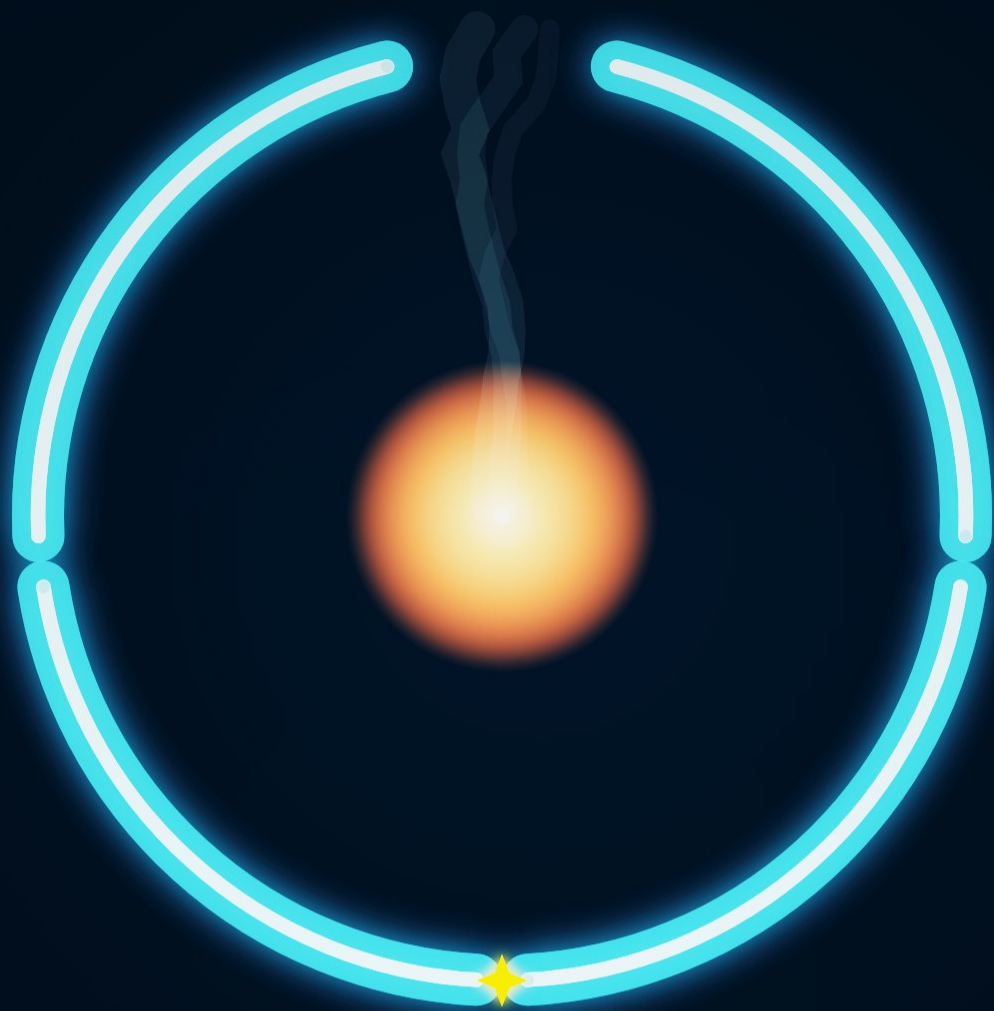




# First Machine to the Fire

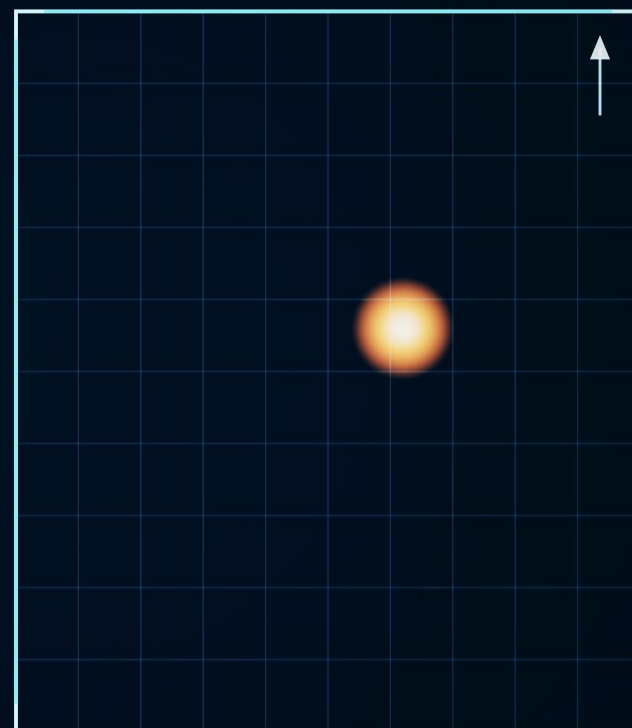
Alaska is the test range for the world's  
firefighting robots.



# A thousand square kilometers of Alaska, wired for fire.

The finals of the world's autonomous wildfire contest are being field tested across a 1,000 square kilometer range in Alaska, run through the University of Alaska Fairbanks. It is an FAA-designated test site for unmanned aircraft.

1,000 km<sup>2</sup> TEST ZONE



1 CELL = 10 km<sup>2</sup>

UAF ACUASI

# The state that keeps setting fire records.

BACKGROUND • ASU NEWS 2025

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of Alaska's largest fire seasons have hit in the last 25 years

~half



of all US acreage burned in 2022 was in Alaska

In a fire-prone, roadless Interior, minutes to detection is the whole game. That is why the world came here to test machines that do not wait for a crew.

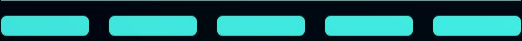


# Five machines made the finals.

from nearly 300 teams worldwide

- Anduril USA
- Data Blanket USA
- Dryad GERMANY
- FireSwarm Solutions CANADA
- Wildfire Quest USA

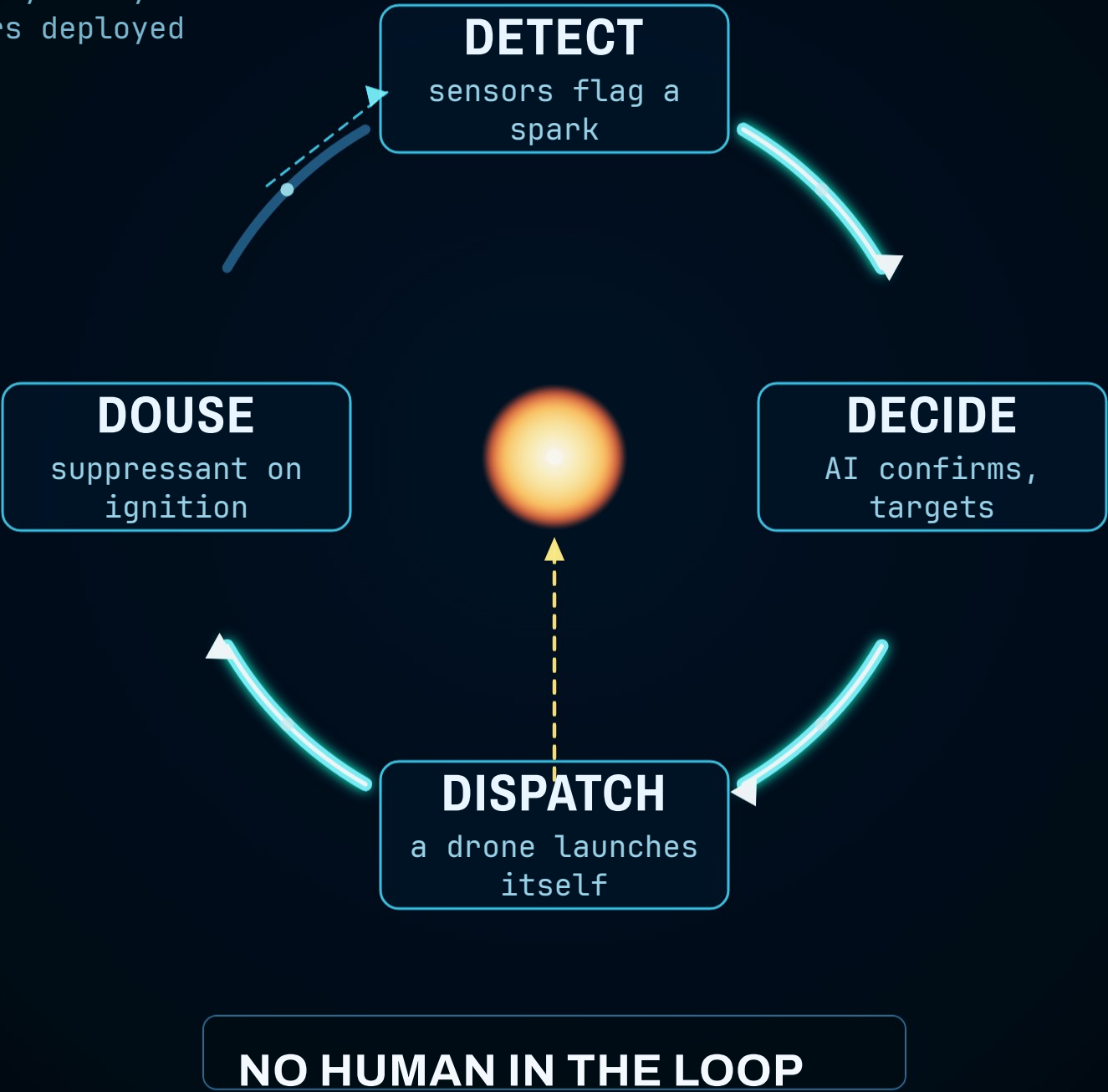
This is the Autonomous Wildfire Response track. A separate detection track competes elsewhere. These five are the ones on Alaska ground.



\$750K semifinal, split five ways = \$150K each

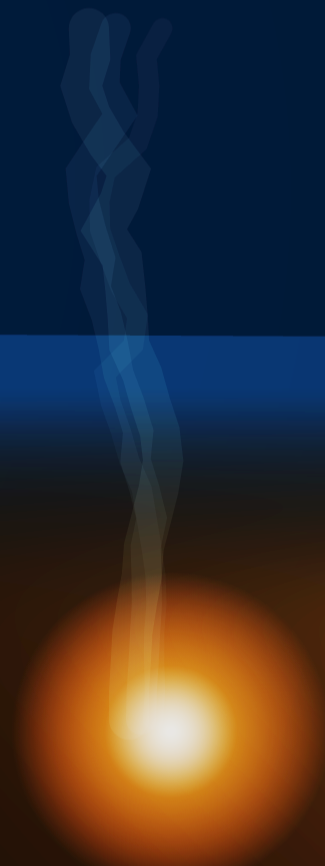
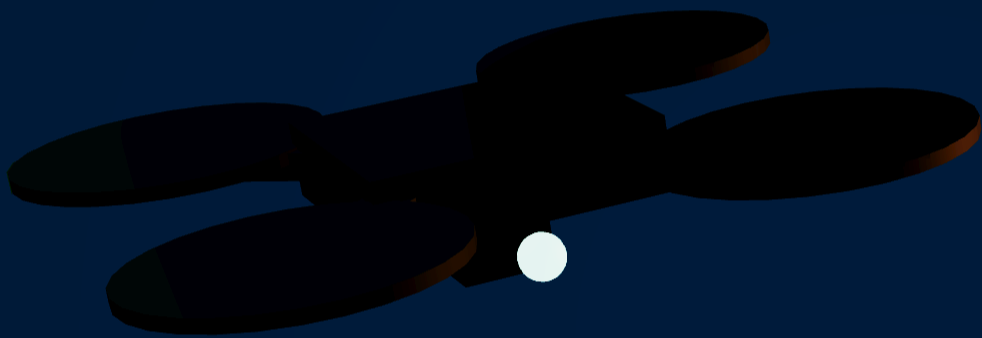
# The loop a machine has to close.

sensor mesh, Dryad says  
30,000+ sensors deployed  
globally



THE DOUSE

# One machine, over one spark, alone.



Dryad says its sensors and drone detected a small wildfire within minutes and put it out with no human on scene during the Alaska trials, dropping up to 100 liters of suppressant.

COMPANY SELF REPORT • NOT INDEPENDENTLY  
VERIFIED

64 50 N • 147 43 W

06 / 09



Eleven million  
dollars, on the line.

\$11M

total competition purse

The money is real and already moving. The proof that a machine can do it, out here, is not settled yet.

WINNER

\$3.5M to each track winner



\$1M Lockheed Martin detection bonus



\$750K semifinal, split five ways



# The winner lands in September. The proof is still out.

A winner is expected in September 2026. But a contest result is not the same as a fire crew you can count on. Until a machine does this over a real Alaska summer, the smartest move is to watch, not to believe.



SEPTEMBER 2026

The prize is minutes. The villages and Interior towns a crew cannot reach in time.



# Save this for September.

When the winner lands, you will know what was really proven here.



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sources in comments