

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service Bridger-Teton National Forest P.O. Box 1888 Jackson, WY 83001



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Fire Crews Released as Teams get a grip on Complex Fires

Favorable weather conditions and ample suppression resources have enabled firefighters to make a strong advance against the Fisherman and Greys River complex fires, presently managed by a Type I and Type II team.

As a result of this progress, the teams are beginning to release some suppression resources, such as hand crews and helicopters, to reduce costs. Communication systems have been established with both Incident Command Posts, allowing more regular information updates.

The Fisherman Complex, managed by a Type I Incident Management Team from Montana has two fires, Fisherman Creek and Buck Creek. Fisherman Creek is 100 percent contained. Buck Creek is presently 80 percent contained and is estimated for full containment by 6:00 PM July 9th. At peak staffing, this complex had 498 personnel working on support staff, 13 hand crews, 6 helicopters and 15 engines from the Forest, State and Bureau of Land Management. By tomorrow morning, several hand crews will be released, along with two helicopters.

The Greys River Complex, managed by a Type II Incident Management Team from Idaho, consists of five fires, two of which are the focus of suppression efforts. The Deer Creek fire, recently estimated at 165 acres is presently 25 percent contained. The Fawn Creek Fire, 45 acres, is presently 50 percent contained. At peak staffing, this complex was managed by 210 personnel working on support staff, 13 hand crews, 7 engines and 2 helicopters. Fewer suppression resources and steep terrain has slowed efforts on this fire, but progress has been made. As such, the release of three hand crews is expected by tomorrow morning, to reduce suppression costs.

Another new fire has been identified on the forest near LaBarge Meadows, south of Big Piney, WY. At the time of this report, the exact size and location of the fire is unknown, but it's presence has been confirmed. Five engines and one helicopter have been dispatched for initial attack. More information will follow.

The Bridger-Teton National Forest wishes to thank the men and women who put their lives on the line during these fires to help protect our local communities and enhance our natural resources through effective fire management. If you see a firefighter in town, or on their way home after these fires are over, please thank them. For more information, please contact the Bridger-Teton National Forest at (307) 739-5500, or check the Internet at www.tetonfires.com.

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