



Tie Canyon Fire Update

Great Basin Team 5 – Russ Bird, Incident Commander

Information Center: 208.991.0067

Email: Tiecanyonfireinfo@gmail.com

Location: Burning 10 Miles South of Victor, Idaho

Start Date: Aug. 22, 2016 at 7:15pm

Cause: Human, Under Investigation

Places to Find Fire Information:

Website:

InciWeb: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4987/> |

Teton Co.: <http://tetoncountyidaho.gov/>

City of Victor: <http://www.victorcityidaho.com/>

Facebook:

Team 5: <https://www.facebook.com/GBIMT5/>

Teton Co: <https://www.facebook.com/tetoncountyidaho>

City of Victor: <https://www.facebook.com/cityofvictor/>

August 28, 2016 – 9 a.m.

Contained: 44%

Size: 986 acres

Total Personnel: 328

Resources:

- Crews: 8
- Helicopters: 5
- Engines: 8

Victor, ID – After two days of hard work by firefighters, the Fire is now 44% contained. An infra-red flight took place over the fire last night to detect hot spots and assess where the fire's perimeter is. Due to more accurate mapping, the number of acres the fire has burned across was reduced to 986 acres.

Gusty winds are again in the forecast today. Bright sunny skies will increase the temperature and may contribute to increased fire activity this afternoon. Crews are repairing containment line along the northern flank of the fire, while also monitoring fire behavior. Interior tree torching and smoldering will continue to produce smoky conditions.

The southeastern and southern flanks are holding the most heat and are the focal points for fire activity. Helicopters, airtankers, handcrews and engines are working together to deliver water and to construct direct containment line to pinch off the fire's growth. Along the southern perimeter of the fire, we expect additional acres to be consumed given the wind direction and topography favorable to the fire. Thick dead and down timber is burning, which requires firefighters to use saws to cut a line through the woods. Helicopters will support firefighters by providing water drops as they continue this demanding work.

For firefighters trained to keep one foot in the blackened area at all times for safety, it is advantageous to see the fire burning in the interior and stopping at containment lines. The blackened area provides a wider buffer for firefighters to work in, which is an added layer of security for them. In addition to providing a safer area for firefighters, as the fire consumes the forest floor, it is also recycling nutrients that will provide forage for wildlife next spring.

Once firefighters, law enforcement and the Forest feel it is safe, the Level 1 evacuation notice will be lifted. This wind test is necessary to provide fire managers with a good litmus test to ensure it is safe to remove the evacuation notice. The wind is forecasted to last through the weekend. It will be lifted as soon as possible.

Lastly, camp crews have been hard at work setting up the Incident Command Post. Power and phone lines have been installed, and additional equipment is arriving, making camp fully operational. Starting Monday, visitors interested in seeing the Post and learning about how an incident management team supports firefighters may request a tour of camp. Please call the fire information line for more information.

Highway 31 is open however, when possible travelers are asked to find an alternative route due to low visibility on Pine Creek Pass and heavy fire traffic. A new helibase near Swan Valley will be visible from Hwy 31. Please use caution when driving along this stretch of the highway as aircraft movement is very distracting to drivers.

Much of the smoke drifting in is from the Pioneer Fire, burning eight miles north of Idaho City, Idaho. Numerous fires burning on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest and Yellowstone National Park are also producing smoke. To view smoke information, visit the Idaho Smoke Blog spot at: <http://idsmoke.blogspot.com>

Evacuations In Effect: No mandatory evacuations are in effect. A Level One evacuation notice is in effect for residents and property owners south of 10000 South; east of Highway 31, west of 1000 West (Pole Canyon Road) and west of Highway 3, south of 9000 South.

Area/Trail Closures: A Tie Canyon Fire Area Closure is in effect. This includes areas west of Pole Canyon, Tie Canyon Road 252 and Upper Rainey Creek Road 253. To view a map of this area closure, visit: http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/photos/IDCTF/2016-08-24-1620-Tie-Canyon-Fire/related_files/pict20160726-155651-0.jpeg

#TieCanyon#