

DAILY UPDATE: Longhorn Complex Fire

July 25, 2012, 8:00 p.m.

Contact: Jeni Lawver, Public Information Officer
Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team C
www.inciweb.org

Phone Numbers: 605-747-2046 or 605-747-2707

Information Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



Firefighters Will Work into the Night to Secure Fire's Perimeter

St. Francis, SD- Tonight, fire crews will continue to focus their efforts on the South Crazy Horse Fire. Firefighters will be concentrating on securing the fire line and patrolling the fire's perimeter to check for any remaining heat. There is a potential for thunderstorms until approximately 9 p.m., then clearing to partly cloudy skies overnight. Temperatures are expected to be in the upper 60s with calm winds out of the NW. Due to the hard work of the firefighters during the past few days, fire managers are cautiously optimistic that they have turned the corner on suppression of the Longhorn Complex. Tonight, Fire Behavior Analyst, Bill Aney, reminded firefighters that, "we have turned the corner, now let's finish strong." His words are a reminder to firefighters and public alike that while excellent progress has been made, there is still some work to do before the fire is fully contained. The Longhorn Complex is at currently 80% containment.

Because of the success of the firefighting efforts and improving weather conditions, representatives from the Incident Management Team, Todd County Emergency Management, and the Rosebud Agency rescinded all evacuation orders for the Longhorn Complex at 2:00 p.m. today. The Red Cross shelter for evacuees in St. Francis was closed at 5:00 p.m. this evening.

Both BIA 30 and BIA 5 into the Spring Creek community are open to **residents only**. A staffed road block remains in effect for non-residents on BIA 30 at the intersection with BIA 5, and on BIA 5 at the intersection with BIA 501. Residents, and those travelling in the fire area, are urged to use caution as emergency vehicles and firefighters will continue to be working in the area.

Local residents are reminded that there are still hazards to be cautious of in the fire area. Smoke may continue to be visible during the next few days as unburned fuels and smoldering logs located inside the perimeter continue to burn. Also, trees that may have been weakened by the fire, could fall without warning. Please use caution near the fire area, and while traveling on roads adjacent to the fire.

Fire information is available by calling 605-747-2046 or 605-747-2707. The public is encouraged to call between the hours of 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.

####