



Rock House Fire Update Sunday, May 1, 2011 – 10:00 am

Fire Information: Phone (432) 426-3900, www.inciweb.org

Fire Update: Yesterday, Fort Davis Volunteer Fire Department, along with the Initial Attack group on the Rock House Fire, responded to a single-vehicle automobile accident on Highway 118 between Fort Davis and Alpine that started a grass fire. Their quick response extinguished what could have become another significant fire, given the extremely low humidities and gusty winds yesterday. On the Rock House Fire, hotshot crews were flown into the area near Solomon Canyon and successfully completed burnouts in the area. Crews dug hand line around much of the remaining perimeter on the north end of the fire. Fireline is now complete around the entire fire, but still needs to be reinforced and widened.

UPDATE-Overnight, crews continued to mop up the lines that were burned out yesterday. This same activity will continue today with additional clearing being done to widen the lines. A cold front is expected to come into the area this afternoon, bringing unpredictable winds followed by much lower temperatures and north winds. The priority today will be keeping the fire within the fireline during this wind event.

Burn Ban Remains in Effect--Jeff Davis County residents are reminded about the Burn Ban that is in effect. No outdoor burning is allowed. Charcoal grills are permissible but it is highly recommended that a water source is positioned close to the grill when in use. County Fire Marshal Stewart Billingsley would like to remind county residents that on a day with a Red Flag Warning or critical fire weather, no outdoor welding, grinding or anything that could produce a spark is allowed. Fire Marshal Billingsley stressed that homeowners are responsible for contractors that they employ. Contractors must be advised of, and adhere to, the burn ban.

Highway 118 is open. The public is urged to use caution all roads surrounding the fire due to continuing fire traffic.

Closures: Davis Mountains State Park

Fire Status	Resources
Fire Name: Rock House Geographic Location: Jeff Davis County Acres Burned: 313,323 acres Start Date: 4/9/2011 Percent Contained: 82 percent Expected Containment Date: unknown Cause: Electrical fire in abandoned structure Injuries: 2 Structures Threatened: 16 residences, 12 commercial property, 27 outbuildings Structures Destroyed: 24 residences, 2 commercial	Crews: 13 Engines: 60 Helicopters: 8 Dozers: 3 Overhead: 113 Total Personnel Assigned: 520 Estimated Cost to Date: \$5,733,809

Cooperating Agencies: Jeff Davis County, Jeff Davis County Sheriff, Fort Davis FD, Fort Davis Emergency Services, Texas Highway Patrol, Davis Mountain State Park, Fort Davis National Historic Site, Nature Conservancy, Reeves County