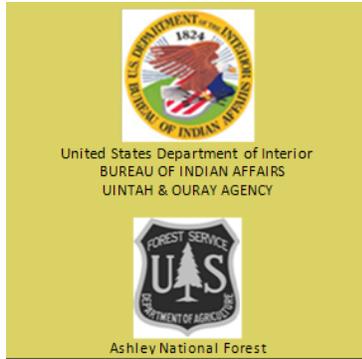


Contact: Louis Haynes - [435-781-5105](tel:435-781-5105)



Pole Creek Fire

July 1, 2012 8 p.m.

www.utahfireinfo.gov

<http://inciweb.org/incident/2962/>

Firefighters Increase Containment on Pole Creek Fire

Whiterocks, Utah ... The Pole Creek fire is currently 2028 acres and did not increase in size today. It is 75% contained and burning in timber, piñon juniper, sage and grass about 8 miles northwest of Whiterocks, Utah.

Today firefighters continued work to secure fire lines on the north and northeast portions of the fire and began to reduce unburned fuel within 200 feet of the fire line inside the fire area. Firefighters also patrolled the southern and western edges of the fire reducing unburned fuel within 200 feet of the control line and removing any hot spots within 100 feet of the control line.

Shawn Jaca, Incident Commander stated, "Fire activity was moderate again today with smoldering and creeping fire and occasional torching in small unburned pockets of fuel within established containment lines which allowed firefighters to make significant progress in putting a line around the perimeter of the fire."

Volunteers from the Ute Tribe Search and Rescue Team are working with the incident command team to ensure public safety by controlling access to the fire area. Employees from the Ashley National Forest also staffed information points along the Elk Horn Loop Road in Uintah Canyon and above Farm Creek.

There are no closures or evacuations. No structures are threatened. The cause of the fire is under investigation and containment is expected to occur on July 3, 2012.

There are currently 77 firefighters and 4 engines and 1 helicopter assigned to the fire.

Smoke from other fires within the state of Utah is impacting the Uintah Basin. Smoke from the Seeley Fire, Wolf Den Fire, Church Camp Fire and Rosecrest Fire is arriving adding to the smoke from the Pole Creek Fire and at times obscuring it.

The Pole Creek Fire is being managed by Shawn Jaca's Type 3 Incident Command Team and an incident command post has been established at the grade school in Neola, Utah.