



## Dixie National Forest

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# News Release

Date: September 11, 2015

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## Pine Valley Ranger District Suppressing Two Lightning Caused Fires

ST. GEORGE, UTAH –The Pine Valley Ranger District of the Dixie National Forest is suppressing two lightning caused fires in the Pine Valley Wilderness Area, the Oak Grove Fire and the Brown Trail Fire.

The Brown Trail Fire was reported and contained today, burning a quarter of an acre in Ponderosa pine and mixed conifer. The Brown Trail Fire could be seen from the Pine Valley Recreation Area with aerial operations pulling water from the Pine Valley Reservoir providing bucket drops early in the day. This allowed the Coconino fire crew to build fire line around the perimeter and contain it this evening. Crews will work tomorrow on extinguishing all remaining burning vegetation within the fire line tomorrow.

The Oak Grove Fire is now at 833 acres with 10% containment. Lighter smoke produced by the fire signifies a decrease in fire intensity and fuel consumption. Additional handcrews were flown into the fire area to assist with fire line construction efforts. Warm weather will continue tomorrow with moisture moving into the fire area late Sunday to provide some relief from the current dry conditions.

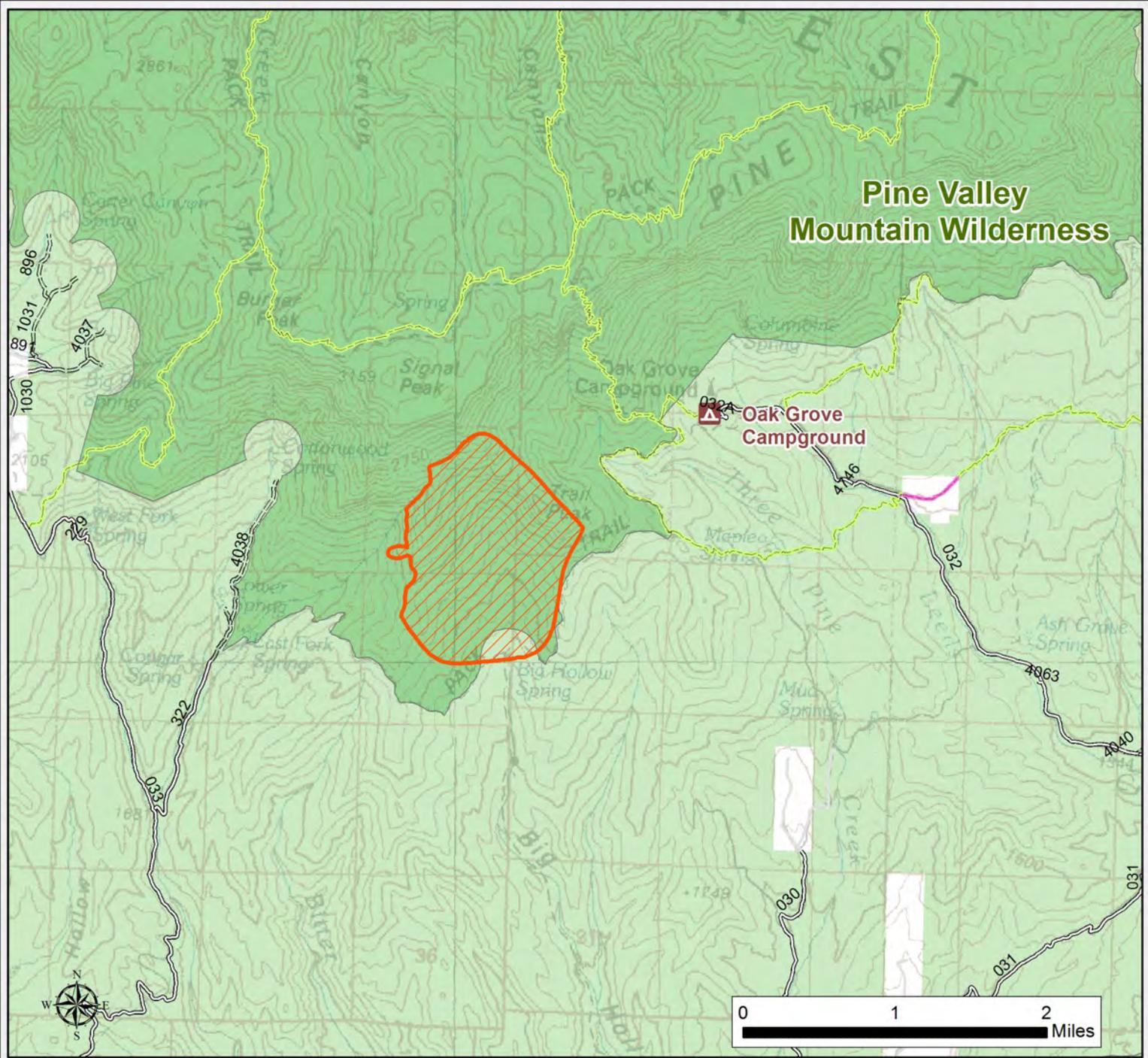
“Western ecosystems are highly fire adaptive and require fire to regenerate and maintain forest health. Fire helps the forest create wildlife habitat and develop a mosaic pattern in the vegetation assisting with forest resiliency against insects, pests, and catastrophic wildfire,” said Joe Rechsteiner, Pine Valley District Ranger on the Dixie National Forest. Local resource advisors are surveying the fire to determine the impacts on wildlife, vegetation, and recreation areas in the vicinity. Fire managers are using that information to determine tactics that will minimize the disturbance of fire suppression efforts.

The Forest Service has temporarily closed Forest Roads #031, #902 and # 032 and the Oak Grove Campground for protection of public and fire personnel safety. Browns Trail, Forsyth Trail, Equestrian Trail and the Summit Trails are also closed. The closure order will remain in effect until the fire danger subsides. “The Pine Valley Ranger District appreciates the public’s understanding and willingness to comply with these restrictions for protection of the fire personnel and for public safety,” said Eric Eastep, Incident Commander.

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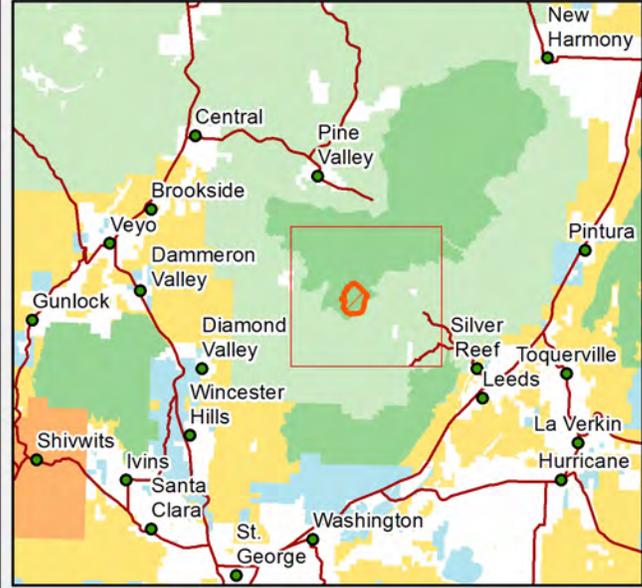
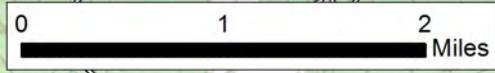
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“Caring For The Land And Serving People”



# Pine Valley Mountain Wilderness

Oak Grove Campground



## Dixie National Forest Pine Valley Ranger District Oak Grove Fire 9/11/2015

Legend					
	Oak Grove Perimeter 09/11/2015 0900 833 Acres		National Park Service		Open Roads
	National Forest		Private		Admin. Roads
	Bureau of Land Management		State		Trail Non-Motorized
	Bureau of Indian Affairs		Wilderness		Non-Forest Road
					Non-Forest/Private Trails

