

News *fire information*

Bureau of Land Management AZ
Dixie National Forest
Utah, Forestry, Fire, and State Lands

Bureau of Land Management UT
Zion and Bryce National Parks
Bureau of Indian Affairs



For Immediate Release
April 19, 2011

Contact: Nick Howell
(435) 865-3026 or
nhowell@blm.gov

Local Firefighters Support Wildfires Abroad

CEDAR CITY, Utah- Approximately 28 wildland firefighters from the Color Country Interagency Fire Center in southern Utah were dispatched to New Mexico and Texas last week. According to the National Situation Report, the state of Texas is experiencing high frequencies of fire activity daily. Some of the large Texas fires have destroyed homes, property and has claimed the life of a volunteer firefighter.

In addition to local firefighters providing boots on the ground, five fire engines have been dispatched for national support according to Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Fire Management Officer, Tooter Burdick. "Color Country District BLM is providing equipment and personnel to Socorro, New Mexico and Texas for assistance with their current fire conditions," Burdick said. It's not uncommon for firefighters to be sent to other states when it's not fire season here in southern Utah. Most assignments consist of 14 fire days assigned to an incident. "When travel time is included, assignments can reach up to 18 days total," Burdick added.

All federal firefighters are considered to be a national resource and because fire suppression resources are typically in short supply, fire prone regions in the United States are required to share personnel and equipment in order to protect communities at risk from wildfire. Typical fire seasons can begin in the southern states as early as February and tend to follow the seasonal progression of dry conditions to southern Utah by June, then north to Idaho and Montana in August or September.

For further information on Utah wildfires, proactive work efforts and preparedness measures you can take for your home visit Utahfireinfo.gov

###

Promoting safe and effective fire management through interagency cooperation
For Fire Information Visit Us At www.UtahFireInfo.gov or call 866-447-1283

