



Forest Service

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News Release



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West Government Creek Fire Update

Salt Lake City, Utah, September 4, 2016, 11 AM– West Government Creek Fire is a lightning caused fire that started on Friday, September 2, approximately 10 miles southwest from the Town of Vernon, Utah on the Uinta Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

The fire has been a wind driven fire and was very active yesterday growing to 4,006 acres in size with 0% containment. Fire is actively burning in grass, sagebrush and Juniper vegetation.

Stage one evacuations were lifted yesterday evening around 6:00 pm.

Road closures in effect: Highway 36 to Pony Express Road, Lookout Pass Road, and Erickson Pass Road. People are encouraged to stay clear of the fire area and roads for their safety.

Resources at risk include critical Sage Grouse habitat and cultural resources. The management strategy for this fire is full suppression. Incident objectives are to keep the fire east of Erickson Pass Road, west of Red Pine Mountain and south of Pony Express Road.

Fire is burning on BLM, School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA), Forest Service lands, and private land. Agencies responding to this fire include the BLM, Forest Service, and State and County resources. Current resources include, three Hotshot crews, two hand crews, one squad, five engines, four water tenders, three Heavy Air Tankers, three single engine air tankers (SEAT's), and three Helicopters. Estimated personnel at scene is around 200.



There Is a Red Flag Warning from noon today until 10 p.m. A windy air mass will remain over the fire throughout the day with wind reaching 10-15 mph and potential gusts reaching the upper 30's.

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Photo: West Government Creek Fire currently burning 10 miles southwest of the Town of Vernon Utah on the Uinta Wasatch-Cache National Forest.



Photo: West Government Creek Fire on the Uinta Wasatch-Cache National Forest.