



Bureau of Land Management

Utah
News

WEST DESERT DISTRICT OFFICE
2370 S. DECKER LAKE BLVD WEST VALLEY CITY, UT 84119
PHONE (801) 977-4300 FAX (801) 977-4397
[HTTP://WWW.BLM.GOV/UT/ST/EN.HTML](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en.html)

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Media Contact: Doug Bitton, (801) 696-7899
or Sierra Hellstrom (801) 940-4935
(Limited cell coverage, leave voicemail)

Choke Cherry Fire Slows Growth on Day 4

Ibapah, Utah – The Choke Cherry Fire is still active with a containment of 50 percent. Yesterdays weather conditions with wind estimated at 12-20 mph, heat nearing 100 degrees and low relative humidity made the fire flare up by noon time within the fire perimeter. Tactics and strategies helped keep the fire in the containment lines. Most fire activity was in upper elevations of Pole Canyon within the Deep Creek mountain range.

This fire is being managed by a Northern Utah Type 3 Incident Management Team, which has multiple agencies of a 180 personnel. Involved agencies are Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, State of Utah, Layton City Fire, Unified Fire Authority of Salt Lake County, Weber Fire District, Utah County Fire, North Logan Fire District, Murray City, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and private contractors.

Firefighters have used an approach called “Minimum Impact Suppression Tactic” also abbreviated as “M.I.S.T.” This approach is to assist in minimizing the fire spread and using every possible way to avoid damage or disturbance of the Deep Creek Wilderness Study Area and the National Historic Pony Express Trail that travels north and east of the fire. Yesterday and today the upper elevation of the Pole Canyon has a 20-member hotshot team out of Redding, California that continues holding containment lines and using helicopter bucket drops. Yesterday the total count of water buckets drops was 80. No retardant drops were reported yesterday.

With decrease in fire activity and meeting objectives established by the local BLM District, a transition is planned for Friday from a Type 3 to a Type 4 team, managed by the local District. A helicopter, two engines, a water tender, and a 20-person crew will remain on the fire. The acreage is currently estimated at 1,632, based on a fly-over using GPS to give total acres burned. Smoke is expected to be visible from within the burn area as fire will continue to creep and smolder. There is potential for future fire activity, and management actions will be adjusted to address conditions on the fire.

Total Fire Personnel = 180
6— 20-Person Crews (including 2 Interagency Hotshot Crews)
6 Engines
3 Water Tenders
2 Helicopters with bucket capabilities
8 Smokejumpers



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Pic 1: Air Operations of bucket drops 7-20-16



Pic 2: Redding Hot Shots loading helicopter 7-21-16

-NUIFC Type 3 Incident Management Team-