

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service
Bridger-Teton National Forest
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: July 7, 2001

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Positive Outlook on Bridger-Teton National Forest Fisherman Complex Fires

Fire officials on the Bridger-Teton National Forest and the Type I and Type II teams called in to manage the Fisherman and Greys River complexes, are making progress on forest fires burning since July 4th. Information on these fires has been difficult to obtain as Incident Command Post communications systems are still being constructed. In order to obtain this information, Fire Information Officers are relying upon late afternoon reports from crews coming in from the fire line.

A 7:00 PM debriefing on the Fisherman Complex divulged the following information.

The Fisherman Complex, Latitude and Longitude 42 59.53 and 110 03.26 and 43 9.94 and 110 19.05, presently has 210 crew members, working on twelve engines, six helicopters, several hand crews and the Type I Team, to control a 425 acre fire that potentially threatens 53 residential dwellings in Hoback Ranches, near Bondurant, WY. According to reports submitted by the team, the outlook on this complex is good and "If conditions hold, estimated containment of Fisherman Creek Fire: 6:00 PM, July 8th. Buck Creek Fire: 6:00 PM, July 9th, 2001." These projections are based upon stable weather conditions, like those of the past two days.

In a report submitted by the Structural Protection Specialist on the team, the fire in its present condition does not immediately threaten residents of the Hoback Ranches. This statement also warned that these residences could be threatened by new fires started in the area, which could result from unstable weather patterns similar to those of July 4th, which started the present fires, or quite possibly, human negligence. In the event that conditions change and a threat to the Hoback Ranches area is perceived, notification and evacuation plans are in place and have been coordinated with the Sublette County Sheriff's Department and Search and Rescue.

A public meeting will be held tomorrow night, July 8th at 8:00 PM at the Hoback Guard Station on Wyoming Highway 191/189, just north of the town of Bondurant. This meeting is to update interested members of the community on fires status, conditions and the present level of suppression being provided. For more information, please contact the Bridger-Teton National Forest at (307) 739-5500, or check the Internet at www.tetonfires.com.

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