

Pilgrim Creek Wildland Fire—Blackrock Ranger District

October 3rd, 2020



Date of Detection: September 30, 2020

Current Size: October 3rd, 100 acres with active and spotting in heavy timber.

Location: Northeast of the Pilgrim Creek drainage. South of Wildcat Mountain.

Closures: Pilgrim Creek Road and area closure in the Pilgrim Creek drainage (see map)

Fire Cause: Under Investigation

Legal Description: Latitude 43,59.39 N Longitude 110' 34. 03 W

Management Strategy: Point protection strategy with consideration and mitigation methods for wilderness protection involving minimum impact suppression tactics.



Yesterday (10/02) with winds out of the north and west contributed to the fire's new growth from 80 acres to 100 acres. The fire was able to consume a pocket of partially burned vegetation along the western perimeter of the fire's edge and displayed a column visible throughout the area. The fire is burning within several stands of mixed timber. When these trees torch there is great potential for the fire to spot ahead of its self and contribute to new fire growth and an increase in acres and this can be expected over the next few days.

Currently, there are eight wildland firefighters from the Caribou Targhee National Forest and the Teton Interagency Wildland Fire Module. This crew is supporting the evacuation efforts of public, helping to deliver intel on the fire's activity back to fire managers in town and provide point protection to keep the fire in check.

Cause is undetermined currently and under investigation. When determining wildland fire cause, investigators look at lightning maps and use a methodical, systematic approach to determine what caused the ignition of a wildfire. Lightning was in the area 10 days prior to the detection of the Pilgrim Fire; however, several other environmental and human factors are also considered to be suspect at this time. As with any wildfire detection and incident, the public's help with any information is always helpful and appreciated.

Information can be shared to 307-739-5424