

Rocky Mountain Incident Management 2 Team Black

Fire Information/Media: 307-222-8295

Email: tokewannafire@gmail.com

Twitter: @tokewannafire

Facebook: Tokewanna Fire Information



Saturday, July 30, 2016

5:30 PM

Information Hours: 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Tokewanna Fire Update

The Tokewanna Fire is burning in grasses, mixed conifer timber stands, pine beetle weakened trees, and heavy dead and down fuels 15 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming. Extreme fire behavior with long-range spotting has been observed in areas of the fire. While ensuring firefighter and public safety, crews are constructing direct hand and bulldozer lines along the southwest, west, and northwest perimeters of the Tokewanna Fire. Supported by aviation resources, crews are working to build direct and indirect fireline along the northern and southern perimeters of the fire heading east from County Road 271.

The Tokewanna Fire is being managed as a full-suppression fire, has burned 1252 acres, and destroyed eight structures. The Tokewanna Fire is five percent contained and burning predominantly on private lands. Fire investigators have arrived and are currently investigating the cause of the fire. One firefighter was injured on July 29, 2016, transported to a hospital in Salt Lake City, and is in stable condition.

At 6:00 a.m. on July 30, 2016 the Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team Black assumed command of the Tokewanna Fire.

There is a community meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at the Mountain View High School, Mountain View, Wyoming.

Rocky Mountain Incident Management 2 Team Black

Fire Information/Media: 307-222-8295

Email: tokewannafire@gmail.com

Inciweb: <http://www.inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/4903>

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Facebook: Tokewanna Fire Information



Sunday, July 31, 2016

10:00 AM

Information Hours: 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Tokewanna Fire Update

Over 230 people attended the Tokewanna Fire community meeting at the Mountain View High School last night. The community expressed strong support for the firefighters currently working the fire and for the local firefighters and departments who were instrumental in protecting values at risk during initial attack. The Tokewanna Fire continues to burn in areas severely impacted by the mountain pine beetle raising the risk of long-range spotting. Evacuations in the Tokewanna subdivision, Uinta County Youth Camp, Aspen Springs, Meeks Ridge, the Blacks Fork River Estates, and cabins in the surrounding areas remain in place.

Today, firefighters will continue to protect the numerous values at risk in and around the Tokewanna Fire area. Fuels remain dry despite having received some rain over the fire yesterday. With warm temperatures, relative humidity values around 20%, and the possibility of isolated thunderstorms to the south, which produce outflow winds, are a concern for firefighters working to improve hand and dozer lines in the Tokewanna subdivision and areas to the north of the Uinta County Youth Camp. Hand and bulldozer lines will continue to be improved and extended on the northern and southern perimeters of the fire. Firefighters working to prevent further spread of the fire to the east will construct direct and indirect fireline utilizing heavy equipment. Aviation resources will continue to check fire spread to the north and east. The Tokewanna Fire is being managed as a full suppression fire.

Due to ongoing fire operations, visitors to the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest and the numerous other recreation and historical sites around the Tokewanna Fire area are encouraged to use caution when driving. County Road 271 is closed between Blue Heron Road and the Utah state line. County Road 410 is open. The Forest Service gate at County Road 279 is closed at Cold Springs Road. There is a soft closure of Forest Service Road (FSR) 0-58 to the junction of FSR 0-73.

Fire Statistics:

Start Date: July 28, 2016, approximately at 3:00 p.m.

Size: 1252 acres, predominantly on private land

Containment: 5%

Location: 15 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming

Cause: Under investigation

Total Personnel: 286

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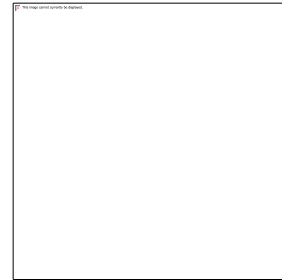
Tokewanna Fire Public Announcement

On August 1, 2016 residents of the Tokewanna Estates and those who live south of Cattle Guard 7 will be allowed into the fire perimeter between 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. to retrieve medications and obtain other items that are not readily available. Uinta County Sheriff's Officers will escort residents into the Tokewanna Estates and surrounding area. Residents will need to provide valid identification and are required to leave as they entered. Sheriff's Officers will meet interested residents at the Gravel Pit by Meeks Cabin Reservoir.

Residents returning to the Tokewanna Fire area should expect to encounter a variety of hazards that include fire-weakened trees, blowing ash, stump holes, and smoke from smoldering vegetation. Fire crews will be working in the area felling hazard trees and other suppression repair activities. Hazard tree strikes, in particular, have caused severe injury among firefighters and at times have been fatal. Residents are strongly urged to consider their and firefighter safety when walking around the burn area.

County Road 271 (Meeks Cabin Dam Road) remains closed south from the intersection of Blackfork Drive to the Utah state line. Areas south of the intersection of Wapati Road and East Wapati Road, including East Wapati Road, also remain closed due to ongoing fire operations in the area and long-range spotting potential from the Tokewanna Fire. The Uinta County Youth Camp remains closed. Residents to the north of these areas that include the Meeks Ridge and Aspen Springs subdivisions, and areas north of Cattle Guard 7 will be allowed to return to their homes at noon on August 1, 2016. Residents may not have power when returning to these areas.

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County Road 271 (Meeks Cabin Dam Road) remains closed south from the intersection of Blacksfork Drive to the Utah state line. Areas south of the intersection of Wapati Road and East Wapati Road, including East Wapati Road, also remain closed due to ongoing fire operations in the area and long-range spotting potential from the Tokewanna Fire. The Uinta County Youth Camp remains closed. Residents to the north of these areas that include the Meeks Ridge and Aspen Springs subdivisions, and areas north of Cattle Guard 7 will be allowed to return to their homes at noon on August 1, 2016. Residents may not have power when returning to these areas.

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Tuesday, August 2, 2016

9:00 AM

Information Hours: 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Tokewanna Fire Update

Firefighters continued to make good progress on the Tokewanna Fire, which is burning 15 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming. Crews will continue to mop-up and remove hazard trees in and around structures in the Tokewanna Estates subdivision and will begin back-hauling firefighting equipment from the area. Bridger Valley Electric Association will continue to assess repair needs in order to restore power to the area. Residents of the Meeks Ridge, Aspen Springs, and surrounding cabins returned home yesterday. Tokewanna Estates, Blacks Fork River Estates, and the Uinta County Youth Camp remain under evacuation. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

An infrared flight was flown over the fire yesterday afternoon and identified over 100 spot fires burning along the main eastern and southeastern perimeters of the Tokewanna Fire. Crews in these areas will continue to install direct and indirect fireline around these spot fires in order to prevent their growth and spread of the fire. Aviation resources were an important part in yesterday's firefighting activities, dropping over 130,000 gallons of water, and will continue to support containment efforts by firefighters today. Firefighters and engines will also support suppression activities and have put in over 200,000 feet of hose in and around the fire perimeter. Warm weather, low relative humidity, and isolated thunderstorms are forecasted today for the Tokewanna Fire area, creating potentially critical fire weather conditions. Firefighter and public safety remain a top priority and inform all strategies and tactics in fighting the Tokewanna Fire.

At 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 there will be a community meeting at the Mountain View High School, 330 7th Street, Mountain View, Wyoming, 82939 to update and discuss the status of the Tokewanna Fire.

Fire Statistics:

Start Date: July 28, 2016, approximately at 3:00 p.m.

Size: 1313 acres, predominantly on private land

Containment: 36%

Location: 15 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming

Cause: Under investigation

Total Personnel: 516

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Tuesday, August 2, 2016

7:30 PM

Information Hours: 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Tokewanna Fire Public Announcement

On August 3, 2016 at 12:00 p.m., residents in the remaining evacuation areas of the Tokewanna Fire will be allowed to return home. The Uinta County Youth Camp remains closed. Homeowners returning to the Tokewanna Fire area should expect to encounter a variety of hazards that include fire-weakened trees, stump holes, and blowing ash on high wind days. Smoke from smoldering vegetation may also be seen in the weeks ahead.

Residents engaging in cleaning efforts after returning to a fire impacted area should wear protective clothing that includes boots and heavy clothing in order to safely sift through and handle debris. Wearing an N-95 mask while shifting through debris often helps to avoid breathing smoke and ash. Discarding perishable foods is also an important aspect of cleaning efforts after a wildfire where power has been out for more than two days.

For those needing to remove fire suppressant (retardant) from automobiles, propane tanks, wood siding, and other things it is important to not use bleach. Chemicals in the retardant react negatively when exposed to bleach and may produce a harmful gas. Residents needing to remove fire suppressant should wear gloves and scrub lightly with soap and cold water. Although the health risk from fire suppressant to humans, plants, and animals is minimal, residents should exercise caution with removing retardant from objects.

Additional information about health and safety concerns after a wildfire is available at Uinta County Public Health department (307-787-3800) or (307-789-9203).

Road Closures: County Road 271 (Meeks Cabin Dam Road) south to Meeks Cabin Dam and Blacksfork Drive will reopen at noon on August 3, 2016. 4-H Youth Camp road will remain closed.

Rocky Mountain Incident Management Type 2 Team Black

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Wednesday, August 3, 2016

9:00 AM

Information Hours: 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Tokewanna Fire Update

Increased fire activity is possible ahead of a cold front that is forecasted to pass over the fire today bringing with it the possibility of dry lightening. Ahead of the front, warm temperatures, relative humidity values of 12 percent, and winds gusting to 25 mph will test containment lines on the Tokewanna Fire. A Red Flag warning has been issued for the fire area.

Today, residents of the Tokewanna Estates subdivision, Blacks Fork River Estates, and surrounding areas will be allowed to return home after being evacuated on July 28, 2016 when the fire began. The perimeter of the Tokewanna Fire stretches 15.5 miles, covering 1313 acres, around which 496 firefighters are working to contain its spread. Crews will continue to improve containment lines, mop-up in areas where fire activity has lessened, and begin backhauling firefighting equipment. Aviation resources will continue to cool hot spots on the eastern perimeter of the fire where firefighters are working to find and install handlines around the over 100 spot fires. The Tokewanna Fire is 58% contained after having destroyed eight residences.

Law and fire resources will patrol in the Tokewanna Estates area today as residents return home. Visitors to the area and others interested in the Tokewanna Fire are reminded that the area is private and to be respectful as residents begin to resume life within the burn area. The towns of Mountain View, Fort Bridger, Lyman, and many recreation spots around the area continue to welcome and be open to visitors. Although there are no fire restrictions currently in place, grasses and other vegetation in much of southwestern Wyoming remains critically dry and vulnerable to ignition. Extreme caution is urged when starting and putting out a camp or recreational fire on public and private lands.

Fire Statistics:

Start Date: July 28, 2016, approximately at 3:00 p.m.

Size: 1313 acres, predominantly on private land

Containment: 58%

Location: 15 miles south of Mountain View, Wyoming

Cause: Under investigation

Total Personnel: 497

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Thursday, August 4, 2016

9:00 AM

Information Hours: 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Tokewanna Fire Update

The Tokewanna Fire is 90% contained after having burned 1287 acres across a six-day period. The decrease in acreage is due to better mapping of the southeastern perimeter where firefighters continued to suppress the over 100 spot fires burning. Yesterday firefighters continued to work in the Tokewanna Estates subdivision as residents returned home. Along the southern perimeter, above Meeks Dam, crews worked to improve hand and bulldozer lines and attack spot fires in the area where smoke is still visible. Today, crews around the burn area continue with mop-up and backhaul operations. Law and fire resources will continue to patrol in and around the Tokewanna Estates area today.

The Tokewanna Fire was discovered at approximately 3:00 p.m. on July 28, 2016 and burned predominantly on private lands. Aviation resources conducted more than 100 missions over the Tokewanna Fire. Fixed wing aircraft, which includes the VLAT (Very Large Air Tanker, DC-10) flew a total of 87.6 hours and rotor wing aircraft 83.4 hours. A total of 110,000 gallons of retardant and 405,000 gallons of water were dropped on the fire. There were a total of 16 Type 1 and Type 2 crews, 100 overhead personnel, and 23 pieces of equipment including fire engines, water tenders, and bulldozers working to contain the fire. Firefighters came from as close as Mountain View, Wyoming and as far away as California and Washington. Over 38 miles of hose was laid around and within the fire perimeter. The maximum number of personnel on the fire totaled 516. A total of 9215 meals were served to firefighters and cooperators. The Tokewanna fire perimeter stretched a total of 15.7 miles within which eight residences and numerous out buildings and equipment were destroyed. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

On August 5, 2016 at 6:00 a.m. the Rocky Mountain Incident Management Type 2 Team Black will transfer command of the Tokewanna Fire to the South and Western Wyoming Type 3 Team.

Although there are no fire restrictions currently in place, in Uinta County grasses and other vegetation in much of southwestern Wyoming remains critically dry and vulnerable to ignition. Extreme caution is urged when starting and putting out a camp or recreational fire on public and private lands.

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