

NEWS RELEASE

Umatilla National Forest



541-278-3722 (Joani Bosworth, Public Affairs, Umatilla N.F.)

UPDATE

**Provided by the Oregon/California Incident Command Team
Trout Meadows Fire Update: Wednesday, August 8, 2007**

Fire Information: 541-427-3079

Incident Command Post located at the Sports Park in Ukiah, OR

Firefighters continue to make good progress on the Trout Meadows Fire as it continues to spread south towards the North Fork John Day River. The fire is now 3,200 acres in size and 20 percent contained, with full containment estimated by August 16. There are 599 people assigned to this fire, based in Ukiah, OR. There are also four helicopters assisting fire fighting efforts consisting of one heavy-lift, two medium lift and one light-lift helicopters.

More active fire behavior and the initiation of burnout operations to secure constructed fire line resulted in an increase in smoke over the area on Tuesday. This will continue today and communities north and east of the fire can expect times of heavy smoke depending on current wind directions. Aerial resources are being used to slow the spread of the main fire front, while hand crews are being employed to secure the fire's perimeter on the east and west flanks.

Two new fire starts near the Trout Meadows Fire resulting from Monday's thunderstorm activity were quickly lined. The north and northeast flanks of the fire near the private lands adjacent to the North Fork John Day Wilderness have been contained and are in mop-up status.

Structure protection remains in place for the private cabins near the fire.

To date there have been no injuries reported as a result of the firefighting efforts. Portions of Forest Service Roads 51 and 52 remained closed to the public due to firefighting traffic and heavy smoke in the area. Numerous road, trail and an area closures are also in effect near the fire and the public is advised to visit the Umatilla National Forest web site at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma/> for the latest information.

Also, maps photos and other Trout Meadows Fire information can be found at the following Internet website: <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/907>.