

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: Thursday, August 9, 2007**

Fire Information: 541-427-3079

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

Firefighters are continuing to make progress in their efforts to contain the 3,250 acre Trout Meadows Fire, 30 miles southeast of Ukiah, Oregon. The fire is now 30% contained as 624 fire fighters, 5 helicopters, 14 fire engines, 9 water tankers and 2 dozers are aggressively suppressing this lightning-caused wildland fire.

Additional air support from large air tankers was also used to assist firefighters on the ground during burn-out operations and the containment of numerous hot spots outside of constructed fire lines. No heavy equipment or dozers are being utilized within the North Fork John Day Wilderness. Minimum suppression tactics are being employed within the Wilderness as fire managers plan for the full containment of the Trout Meadows Fire on the 15th of August.

The fire continues to spread to the south towards the North Fork John Day River. Night crews have made progress in their fire line construction efforts along the south east and south western edges of the fire.

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 Wednesday. 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.

The north and northeast flanks of the fire near the private lands have been fairly secured 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 remain 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.