

John Day Interagency Dispatch News Release



Malheur National Forest



Oregon Department of Forestry

July 26, 2009

7:00 pm

For More Information:

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Cougar Fire Update

John Day, OR- The Cougar Fire located approximately 9 mi SE of Canyon City, in the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness area had favorable fire conditions on Sunday including high temperatures and gusty winds. The fire is estimated to be 600 acres in size, and is located in steep rocky slopes.

Members of the Blue Mountain Interagency Incident Management Team, a Type 2 team have arrived on the forest and will be assuming command Monday morning. The Incident Commander will be Rob Batten, of the Malheur National Forest.

There are several resources assigned to the fire including hot shot crews, smoke jumpers, and rappellers. Air resources have been and will continue to assist the ground resources throughout daylight hours.

The cause of the fire is undetermined at this time and is under investigation.

To report a fire, call 541-575-1321.

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ODF/USFS

John Day Interagency Dispatch is an interagency communication-dispatching center, supporting lands in Eastern Oregon protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry, Malheur National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, and National Park Service.