



News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
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Lake Owen Campground Opened, Fire 100% Contained

(LARAMIE, Wyo.) July 16, 2014 – The Owen Fire has been declared 100% contained and the nearby Lake Owen Campground and Day-Use Area have re-opened to the public.

Storm Peak Wildfire Module from Steamboat Springs, who had been managing the fire since Saturday, turned the incident back over to the Laramie Ranger District today. The District will continue patrolling the fire until it is fully controlled, completely out.

Recent rains were a major factor in full containment of the fire.

Although Forest Road 540, which accesses the campground and day-use area, has reopened, there are still a few remaining closures. The portion of the Rail Trail that runs through the west side of the fire is still closed to the public, as well as Forest Road 517.G and its' spurs along the north edge of the fire. Several dispersed camping spots along Forest Road 540 are also closed.

Small areas within the fire perimeter are still producing occasional smoke and that is expected to continue for some time. There is also still the possibility that despite recent moisture, pockets of unburned fuel within the fire perimeter could flare up.

"We are still requesting that the public not enter the burned area, however we are pleased to re-open the surrounding areas for public use." said Laramie District Ranger Frank Romero. "Visitors to Lake Owen will be able to see where the fire burned along the north side of the lake, but we would like to request that they not walk into the burned areas.

"I'd like to thank all of the crews and personnel that were involved in this incident. We rely on the efforts of many during events like the Owen Fire and this has been a great example of multiple resources working together."

Throughout the incident there were no firefighter injuries or accidents, nor were there any structures burned. Firefighter and public safety was the top priority of the incident.

The 450-acre Owen Fire was discovered Monday afternoon, July 7, burning primarily in heavy timber about 30 miles southwest of Laramie. It was located directly north of Lake Owen on the Medicine Bow National Forest. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Should any new information become available, updates will be provided by Public Affairs staff from the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland on Twitter at: [@MBRNFsTBNG](https://twitter.com/MBRNFsTBNG), hashtag [#OwenFire](https://twitter.com/hashtag/OwenFire) and at InciWeb, <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3932/>.

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