



News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

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Crews Continue Good Progress on La Bonte Canyon Fire

(DOUGLAS, Wyo.) Aug. 10, 2015 – More gains were made by crews Monday on the La Bonte Canyon Fire, as containment increased to 40% and there was no growth in acreage.

Resources in the way of ground crews and helicopters have been added over the last few days, and the 516-acre fire now has over 200 personnel helping to search out remaining hot spots and build containment line.

Progress has been slow due to rough, rocky terrain, especially in the northeast corner of the fire, where three Type I hotshot crews have been assigned. However, fire command staff feels strongly enough that things are headed in the right direction that they will begin releasing some resources to other fires as early as tomorrow.

Fire activity on Monday was minimal, mainly creeping and smoldering.

Tuesday's weather forecast calls for temperatures near 80. It will be mostly sunny until afternoon and then partly cloudy with a chance for showers. Winds will be southeast at 15-20 mph and with possible higher gusts. No measurable precipitation has fallen on the fire since discovery.

The wildfire is located on the far north boundary of Albany County, Wyo., on the Medicine Bow National Forest, and has been burning since last Thursday.

The State of Wyoming, local agencies, and the U.S. Forest Service have all committed resources to the fire.

It is burning in mixed conifer and is just south of the Converse County line. Terrain is rugged in the area, which is approximately 35 miles southwest of Douglas, Wyo., in the Laramie Range.

Curtis Gulch Campground, managed by the U.S. Forest Service, is one mile west of the fire and was evacuated Thursday evening. An emergency area closure has been put in place by the Forest Service and includes the campground, La Bonte Canyon Road (Forest Road 658), as well as multiple other area roads and trails.

The fire is completely on National Forest lands and no structures are immediately threatened.

The cause of the fire is unknown and under investigation. The U.S. Forest Service is managing this fire with a full suppression strategy.

Information updates will be provided by Public Affairs staff from the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland, and can be found on InciWeb,

<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4462/>, and on Twitter at **@FS_MBRTB**, hashtag **#LaBonteCanyonFire**.

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