

## **TIMBER #2 WILDLAND FIRE USE NARRATIVE**

### **7-31-2005.....**

- \* Helicopter 2HX (the Forests exclusive use ship) was departing Duchesne Airport in route back to Vernal at approximately 1800 when they first spotted the fire.
- \* The initial size up was done by Matt Shaddle, the Helicopter Manager.....Fire estimated to be about 1/10 of an acre with moderate spread potential. Fire behavior was creeping and smoldering, located on the upper 1/3 of the slope, burning in Spruce-Fir with Mountain Mahogany upslope from the fire. Slope percent estimated at around 50-60%.
- \* Location: latitude N40.05.22.56 by longitude W110.50.34.81.
- \* Some discussion as to ownership of fire.....coordinates placed the fire very close to the National Forest/Private Land Boundary. Jerry Strebel (West Zone FMO) will fly the fire first thing in the morning to determine ownership and decide whether the unit will suppress or place in fire use if it turns out to be on National Forest Lands.

### **8-01-2005.....**

- \* Helicopter 2HX picked Jerry Strebel up at the Duchesne Airport around 1000 to recon the fire and determine exact ownership. At approximately 1130 it was determined that the fire was indeed located on National Forest Lands.
- \* The fire is located in an area approved for Wildland Fire Use. Jerry will return to the Duchesne District Office, notify the District Ranger and prepare a Stage I WFIP.
- \* Fred Kaminski has been assigned as the FUMA2 based on the "Fire Use Manager Decision" in the Stage I of the WFIP.
- \* Due to the fact that Region 4 is in a Fire Preparedness Level 4, all new WFIP's must have Regional approval.
- \* Clark Tucker made a phone call to the adjacent landowner (Alrick Myrin) to get his feelings on the Forest allowing the fire to burn and that there is a possibility it may spread onto his property. Alrick stated he did not have a problem with fire spreading onto his property; his only concern was that we do not allow the fire to move south of the Timber Canyon Road (Forest Road 149).

### **8-2-2005.....**

- \* At 1215 Fred Kaminski, Duty Officer for the Forest received approval from the regional Office to go forward with the Timber 2 as a WFU Incident. The number assigned to the incident is G4BES3.
- \* Jerry called Nathan Robinson (Duchesne County Fire Warden) and Uintah Basin Fire Center to advise them that the decision had been made/approved to allow Fire Use.
- \* Jerry traveled to Timber Canyon this morning to observe the fire, no visible smoke reported from the Timber Canyon road. Clark Tucker (District Ranger) and Mike Elson (Assistant District Ranger) traveled to Timber Canyon around 1200 to view the fire from the road; they reported no visible smoke as well.
- \* We will fly the fire in 2HX on 8/5/2005 with Fred Kaminski (FUMA2), Ivan Erskine (Forest FMO) and Jerry Strebel (West Zone FMO) to recon and monitor the fire.

### **8-5-2005.....**

- \* Ivan, Jerry and Fred flew the fire at approximately 1530. We could see smoke on the fire from about 10 miles out. The fire appears to have grown a little in size; we guessed it at about ½ acre. The fire continues to smolder and creep in the dead and down 1000 hr fuels, no tree torching has taken place, only ground fire.
- \* Based on what we seen from the ship today, it appears this fire is going to be with us for awhile. With that in mind Fred and Ivan suggested we give it a fire number of its own, the new number is #G4B3B9 instead of the Misc. WFU number of #G4BES3.
- \* We discussed putting a couple folks off of the “Kings Peak Fire Use Module” on the fire if it remains active (preferably one qualified FEMO and one to two firefighters) to monitor and collect fire data.
- \* Also, based on fire activity Fred suggested we start looking at completing a Stage II of the WFIP.
- \* We will continue to monitor the fire from the ground (by driving up Timber Canyon) on an every other day basis.
- \* If weather continues to dry or we start getting reports of this fire from forest visitors, we will schedule another flight.

### **8-7-2005.....**

- \* Fire area has received some pretty good precipitation over the last two days.
- \* Fire is not visible from any of the road systems in the Timber Canyon area. The only option for monitoring, other than flying the fire, would be a good hike up Cow Hollow.
- \* At this time, due to lack of bodies and low fire activity, we have decided not to hike anyone up Cow Hollow. Patrol 131 is going to do a recon of the roads in the area tomorrow, and try to find a site we can monitor the fire from.
- \* Wednesday night 8-10-2005, the Kings Peak Fire Use Module will be released off of the Sheep Creek WFU. So depending on weather conditions and fire activity, we may decide to hike a few folks into the fire to gather some on site data.

### **8-08-2005.....**

- \* Patrol 131 traveled the Timber Canyon Road today.....again, no visible smoke from the road.
- \* While in the area they traveled up the Water Hollow Road to the Long Ridge Road to scout the possibility of viewing the fire site from some location along this road. Again, no luck in finding a viewing site.....fire is in a well hidden location. This is very apparent; fire center has not received a single report of this fire from the beginning.
- \* Once the area dries out a little, and we start seeing a little smoke in the area, we will either fly the fire again or hike a few Kings Peak Fire Use Module members into the fire.....stay tuned.