



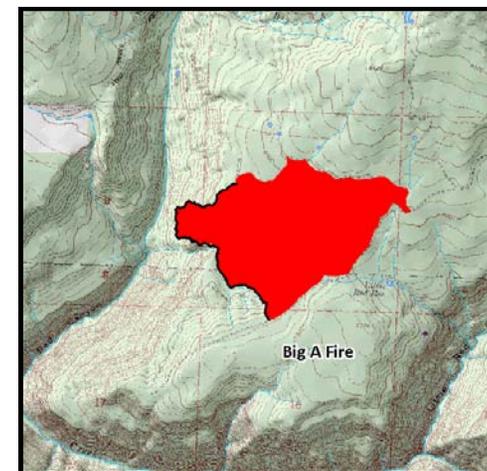
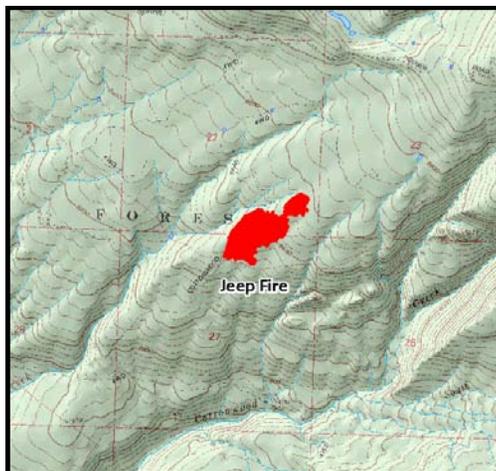
Montrose Interagency Fire Management Unit Fire Update - 08/11/2011



Big A Fire

Reported: August 3, 2011
 Cause: Lightning
 Location: Approximately 10 miles NE of Norwood on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forest—Norwood Ranger District
 Threats: None
 Resources: 3 Type 6 Engines, 1 Type 2 crew, and 3 personnel
 Size: 350 acres
 Planned Actions: Continue burn out operations for control and resource objectives. Keep fire out of Red Canyon and Horsefly Creek.

The Big A Fire is being managed to accomplish resource objectives. The fire is burning in an area where future fuels treatment activities are planned. The fire provides an opportunity for land managers to proactively maintain a healthy pine ecosystem by burning overgrown stands of pine and thick underbrush. The size of the fire is expected to increase over the coming weeks as crews use fire to maintain ecosystem health. Smoke may be visible in the area at times.



Jeep Fire

Reported: July 19, 2011
 Cause: Lightning
 Location: Approximately 12 miles N of Norwood on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forest—Norwood Ranger District
 Threats: None
 Resources: 6 personnel
 Size: 100 acres
 Planned Actions: Patrol fire perimeter and monitor.

The Jeep Fire is being managed to accomplish resource objectives and restore forest health in ponderosa pine stands. It is anticipated that the fire activity will decrease by the end of the week as the fire moves into fuels that are unresponsive to burning. Smoke may be visible in the area at times.

While the safety of the public and firefighters is the top consideration in fire management, decisions are based on many factors. Responding to a fire may include using multiple strategies ranging from monitoring a fire that is beneficial to the landscape to aggressively putting out a fire that threatens people, homes, or important natural or cultural resources. No structure, natural or cultural resource is worth a human life. If you own a home in a fire-prone area, take a few minutes to review several simple steps to make your property more defensible at www.firewise.org.

