



Tie Canyon Fire Press Release
For Immediate Release
August 27, 2016
9:00 am



August 27, 2016 – 9 a.m.

Contained: 25%
Size: 1,260 acres
Total Personnel: 250
Resources:

- Crews: 7
- Helicopters: 3
- Engines: 9

Victor, ID – Near critical fire conditions are in store for firefighters today. A low pressure system moving through the Northern Rockies is forecasted to increase southwest winds and temperature. Conditions will also become drier than it has been the past couple days. Mostly cloudy skies may help some; however, increased southwesterly winds are expected to promote group and single tree torching, especially in the southeastern flank near Tie Canyon.

The wind will test containment lines along the north and northeastern flank, an area that triggered a Level 1 evacuation notice for residents and home owners in Pole Canyon Road and in Hidden Waters Subdivision. Firefighters have concentrated their efforts in this area the past several days to extinguish hot spots and enforce containment lines. Today, they will monitor the fire and extinguish any heat that may occur.

Once firefighters, law enforcement and the Forest Service feel it is safe, the Level 1 evacuation notice will be lifted. This wind test is necessary to provide fire managers with a good litmus test to ensure it is safe to remove the evacuation notice. The wind is forecasted to last through the weekend. It will be lifted as soon as possible.

Airtankers and helicopters will be available today to provide water to firefighters constructing direct handline on the southeast flank where the fire remains the most active in the Tie Creek and Coalmine drainages. Hoses, water pumps and other equipment will be used to assist firefighters with containment efforts as they construct and extinguish hot spots at least 100' from the fire's edge.

Firefighters are extinguishing hot spots and repairing dozer lines of the eastern flank in the Coalmine area that were established during the first several days of the fire. They are following specific guidelines that will minimize visibility and help restore the landscape as quickly as possible.

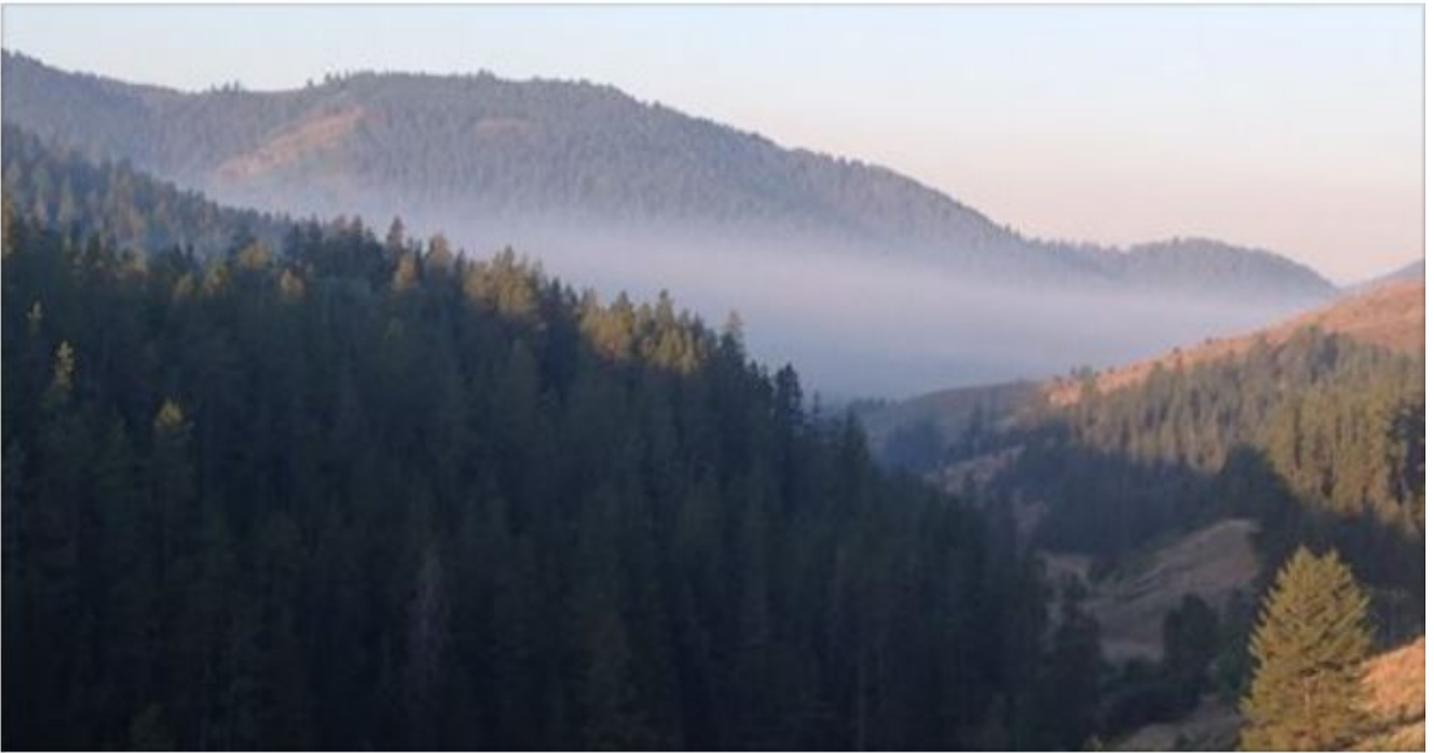
Over 130 residents and interested public attended a community meeting in Victor, Idaho last night. The Incident Commander, Operations Section Chief, and the Teton Country Sheriff made presentations to discuss the fire situation, evacuation levels and the plan moving forward for the evacuation notice. Forest managers, local firefighters and the Idaho Fish and Game also discussed the fire area closure order, provided additional information on area fires and shared guidance regarding future hunting opportunities in preparation for the opening day of bow season.

Highway 31 is open however it is strongly recommended an alternative route is used when possible due to low visibility on Pine Creek Pass and heavy fire response traffic. Instead, people are asked to travel through Rexburg.

Smoke in the morning and evenings will be visible. This smoke is coming from several area fires burning in Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park, and numerous fires burning on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. To view smoke information, visit the Idaho Smoke Blog spot at: <http://idsmoke.blogspot.com>

Evacuations In Effect: No mandatory evacuations are in effect. A Level 1 evacuation notice is in place to prepare residents and property owners south of 10000 West (Pole Canyon Road) and in Hidden Waters Subdivision.

Area/Trail Closures: A Tie Canyon Fire Area Closure is in effect. This includes areas west of Pole Canyon, Tie Canyon Road 252 and Upper Rainey Creek Road 253. To view a map of this area closure, visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/.../relate.../pict20160726-155651-0.jpeg>



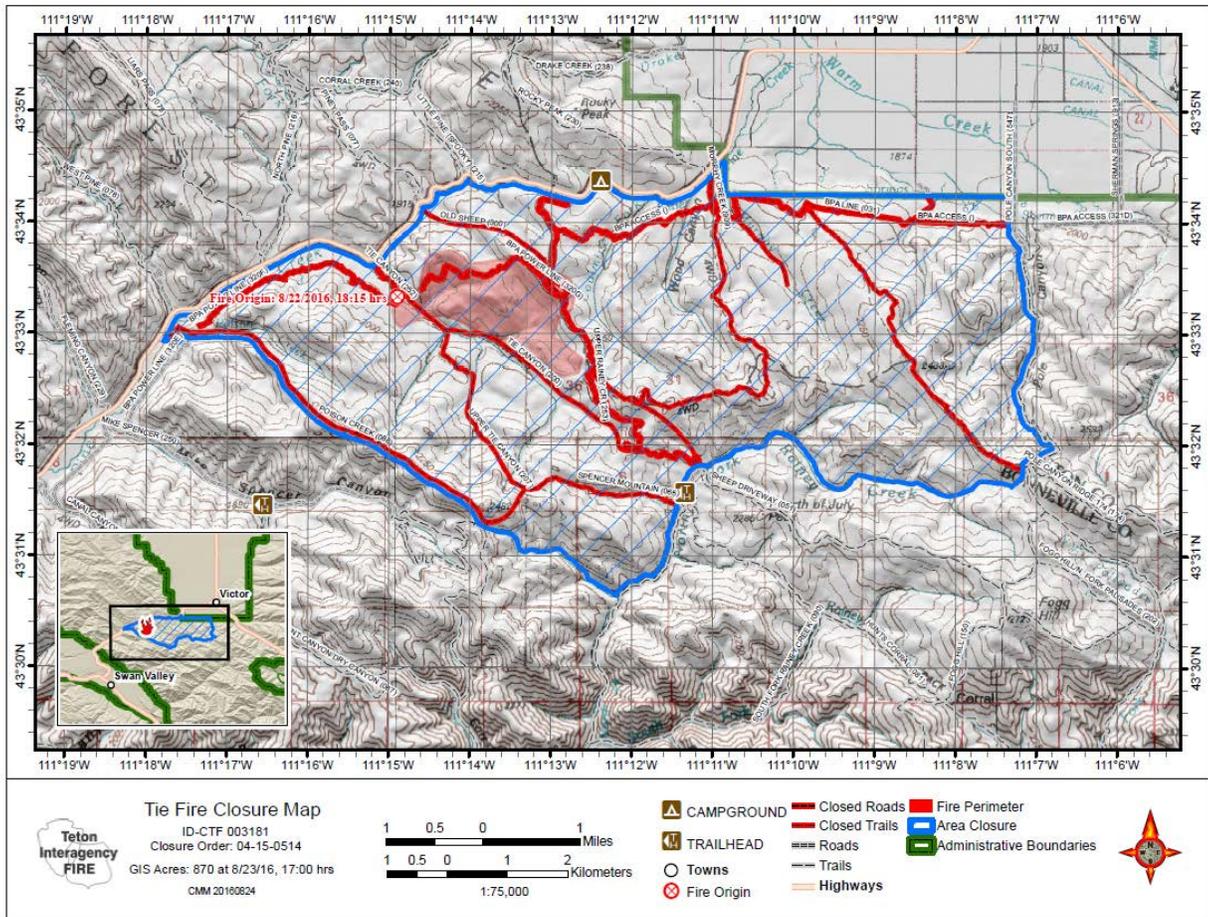
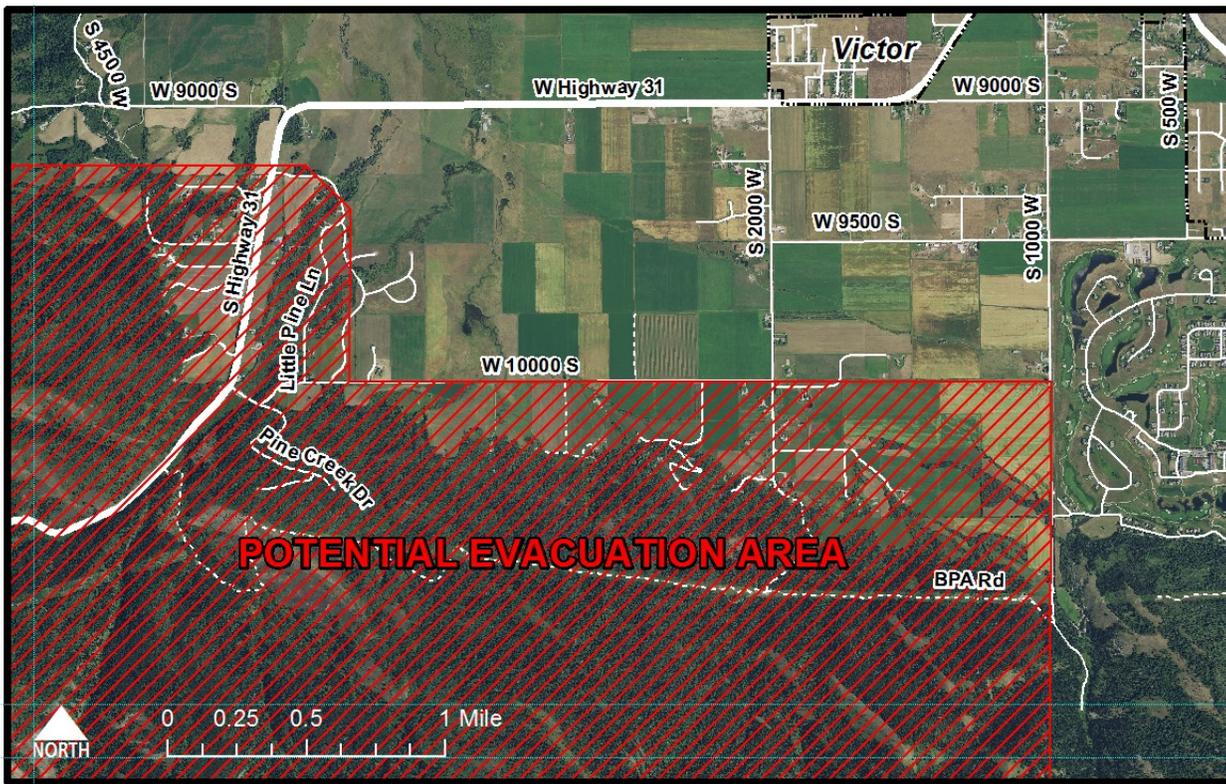
Pic by: Jay Pence, Highway 31 looking west down pine creek/tee canyon junction taken at 7:30am today.

[Teton County Idaho City of Victor U.S. Forest Service - Caribou-Targhee National Forest](#)

As previously released, a Level 1 evacuation remains in effect and recommendations are the same as described in the below evacuation information and map.

LEVEL 1: A Level 1 Evacuation means “BE READY” for potential evacuation.

Residents should be aware of the danger that exists in their area, monitor emergency services websites and local media outlets for information. This is the time for preparation and precautionary movement of persons with special needs, mobile property and (under certain circumstances) pets and livestock. If conditions worsen, emergency services personnel may contact you via an emergency notification system.





Teton County Evacuation Levels

LEVEL 1: A Level 1 Evacuation means “BE READY” for potential evacuation.

Residents should be aware of the danger that exists in their area, monitor emergency services websites and local media outlets for information. This is the time for preparation and precautionary movement of persons with special needs, mobile property and (under certain circumstances) pets and livestock. If conditions worsen, emergency services personnel may contact you via an emergency notification system.

LEVEL 2: A Level 2 Evacuation means “BE SET” to evacuate.

YOU MUST PREPARE TO LEAVE AT A MOMENTS NOTICE

This level indicates there is significant danger to your area, and residents should either voluntarily relocate to a shelter or with family/friends outside of the affected area, or if choosing to remain, to be ready to evacuate at a moment’s notice. Residents MAY have time to gather necessary items, but doing so is at their own risk.

THIS MAY BE THE ONLY NOTICE THAT YOU RECEIVE

Emergency services cannot guarantee that they will be able to notify you if conditions rapidly deteriorate. Area media services will be asked to broadcast periodic updates.

LEVEL 3: A Level 3 Evacuation means “GO”

Evacuate NOW LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!

Danger to your area is current or imminent, and you should evacuate immediately. If you choose to ignore this advisement, you must understand that emergency services may not be available to assist you further. DO NOT delay leaving to gather any belongings or make efforts to protect your home.

THIS WILL BE THE LAST NOTICE THAT YOU RECEIVE

Entry to evacuated areas may be denied until conditions are safe. Area radio and TV stations have been asked to broadcast periodic updates.

Sign up for emergency notification at <http://www.tetoncountysheriff.com/>

Follow the Teton County Sheriff’s Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/teton.sheriff/ and the Teton County website at: www.tetoncountyidaho.gov

BEFORE WILDFIRE THREATENS

- Evacuation Plan. Print your plan and put it on your refrigerator, or put a copy in your disaster supplies kit. Make sure everyone in your family knows where your kit is. Also keep in mind that many of these principles apply to all disaster types.
- Get a map of your area and make sure everyone in your family understands the ways in and out of your neighborhood.

- Assign tasks to each family member for what to do during Level 1 (Ready), Level 2 (Set), Level 3 (GO!) evacuations. Print this checklist and post it on your refrigerator.
- Designate a meeting place – this could be a friend or family members' house, or an evacuation shelter.
- Choose an out-of-the-area contact person to relay information about your welfare to family and friends and to keep your phone lines open.

House Preparation

- Make sure house numbers are visible from the street.
- Make sure driveways are wide enough for fire trucks to enter (10-12 feet wide).
- Prepare your defensible space. See the Firewise checklists and tips. www.firewise.org

Disaster Supplies Kit

- Keep kits supplied and ready at all times in your home and in your vehicle. Kits should include, at the minimum, food and water for each family member for 3 days, battery operated radio, flashlight and extra batteries, first aid kit, and an extra set of sturdy clothing for each family member. Don't forget medications, as necessary.
- Assemble pet kits and keep them in your home and vehicle. Include food, water, leashes, carriers, and medications.
- Assemble special documents, like birth certificates, social security cards, legal documents, phone contact lists, family photos, household inventory, and any portable valuables into easily-moved containers that can be loaded into a vehicle quickly and easily.