



Tie Canyon Fire Joint Press Release

For Immediate Release

August 30, 2016

9:00 am



Victor, ID – After nearly a week of heavy water delivery by airtankers and engines, the Tie fire did not grow Monday.

Additional handcrews and engines arrived Monday to support water handling and line construction efforts. Crews on the southern flanks successfully “plumbed” water lines which firefighters can now use to extinguish hot spots. The art of connecting hoses, pumps and maintaining adequate pressure through mountainous terrain is referred to as plumbing a hoselay. These hoselays will reduce the need for aircraft support and speed containment efforts that will take place over the next several days.

A taskforce of eight engines are assigned to the northern flank of the fire. They will spend today and tomorrow working 200 feet into the fire area to thoroughly look for heat and hot spots. On Monday, these firefighters observed several interior trees torching that required attention. They extinguished the spot and will ensure additional hot spots were not created in the flare up. Winds from the south will help firefighters find hot spots today and tomorrow. They are working to ensure no heat remains in order to allow a Level 1 evacuation notice that has been in place since August 23 can be lifted sometime later this week.

There are no fire restrictions in place on the Caribou - Targhee National Forest in Idaho; however, open burning is not allowed in Teton County, Wyoming. For more information about Idaho Fire Restrictions, visit: <http://www.idahofireinfo.com/p/fire-restrictions.html>. Information about Wyoming fire restrictions can be found at: <http://www.tetonwyo.org/fire>.

Weather and fuel conditions in Eastern Idaho are currently drier and more severe than normal. Starting Wednesday or Thursday of this week, a slight cool down may be occurring with chances of moisture. Behind the front the weather may warm up for a few days, but cooler wet weather is expected in the 8-14 day outlook. While enjoying the outdoors, please use caution if you must use a campfire or other equipment that may cause a spark.

The Teton County ID Sherriff’s Office will be holding a Code Red Registration Opportunity August 31 from 5:00- 7:00pm at the Law Enforcement Center in Driggs, ID. This Opportunity is being held to help residents sign up for the Notification System. For more information about the Code Red Notification System, or to sign up, please visit the Teton Country Sherriff’s Office web page at: <http://www.tetoncountysheriff.com/>

Teachers and students are returning to school this week. Firefighters are using use extra caution when driving in the communities. Fire traffic will be on the highway to access the fire area. Please use caution while driving, especially along Pine Creek Summit and west of Victor where a helibase has been established.

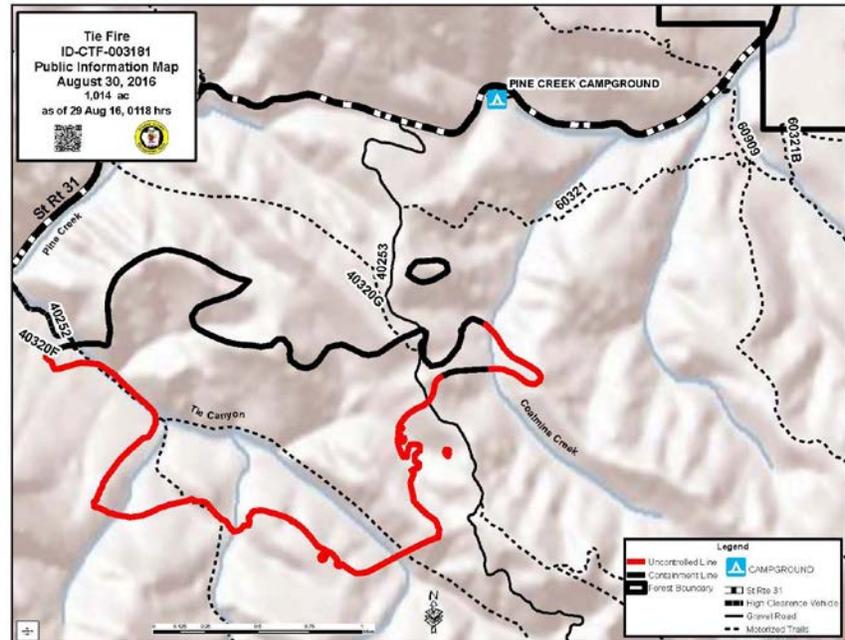
A high pressure weather system is building. This is making conditions warmer and dryer than yesterday. This system will increase movement of the upper air mass, with will make smoke columns stand up and become more visible. When the air mass cools, smoke will drop into the valley. Please stay indoors if air quality becomes poor. 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 One evacuation notice is in effect for residents and property owners south of 10000 South; east of Highway 31, west of 1000 West (Pole Canyon Road) and west of Highway 31, south of 9000 South.

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>

Photo: Incident Meteorologist takes weather reading to determine temperature, humidity and wind speed. Photo by Steve Cobb, Fire Behavior Analyst, Team 5.

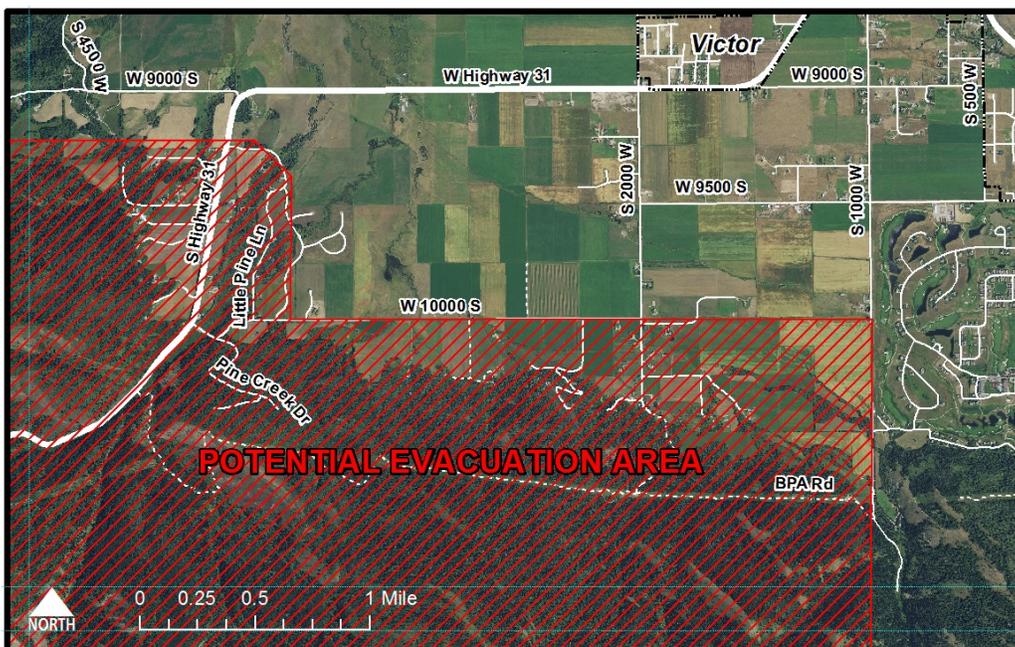
Map of Fire area as of Aug. 30.

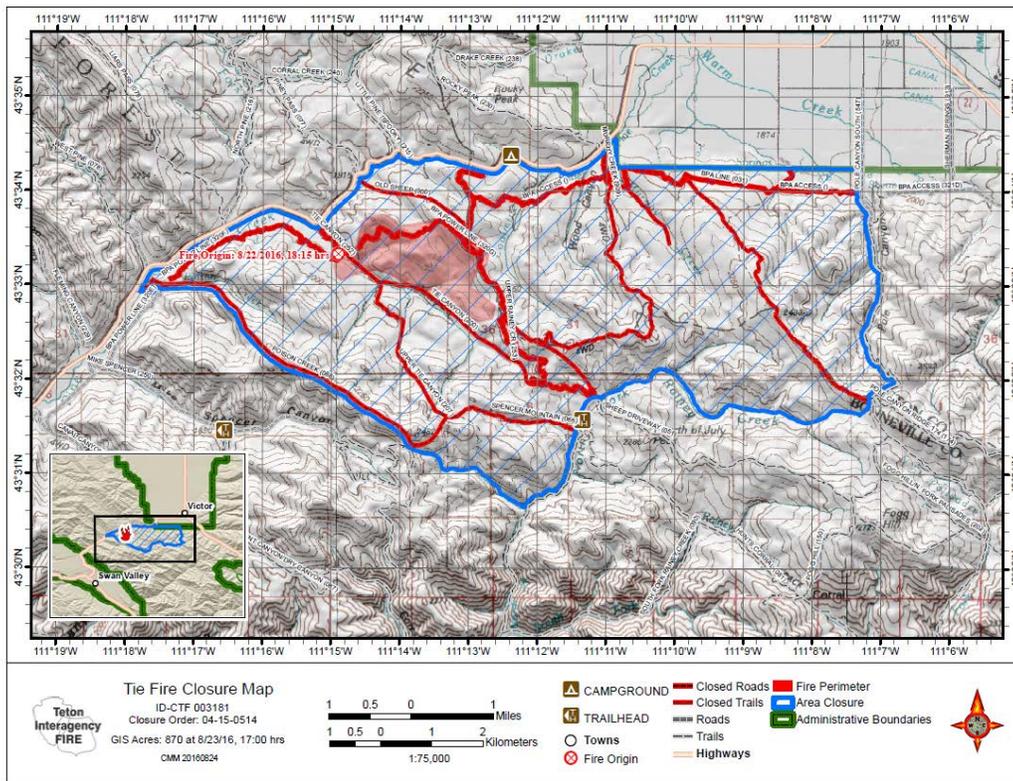


As previously released, a Level 1 evacuation remains in effect and recommendations are the same as described in the below evacuation information and map.

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.