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FACT SHEET

Bitterroot Fire Update

July 18, 2014

Contact: Public Affairs Officer: Tod McKay
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What: Wildland Fire Update
Location: Bitterroot National Forest

Goat Lake Fire – The lightning caused fire is located in the Selway-Bitterroot wilderness five miles west of Darby and 3.5 miles up the Tin Cup Trail. The fire is 4 acres and is burning in thick, downed vegetation. The location is remote and terrain is steep and rugged. Current resources on scene include the Bitterroot Hotshots (19 person crew) and one helicopter which has been assisting with bucket work to help control the spread. Today's plans include continue building line around the fire and continue fire suppression efforts. Firefighters who hiked into the location and remained on scene overnight, will continue working today towards containment. There are no structures threatened and the fire is currently 0% contained.

Railroad Creek Fire – Lightning caused fire discovered last night by the Deer Mountain Lookout. The 3 acre fire is located in the Sapphire Mountains 20 miles east of Hamilton and 2.5 miles northwest of Signal Rock. It is near the border of the Bitterroot and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests. There are no structures threatened and the fire is currently 0% contained. It is burning in extremely steep and inaccessible terrain. Current resources include one helicopter which is using buckets to drop water on the fire. Fire activity is reported as minimal at this time.

Wapiti Fire - The 21 acre lightning caused fire located in the Selway-Bitterroot wilderness near Paradise Campground is out and all resources have been released.

2014 Fire Season: So far this summer, Bitterroot National Forest fire crews have responded to and extinguished 14 wildfires. Due to the quick response of crews, most of the fires were kept under 1 acre in size.

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