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Subject: Bitterroot NF - Wildfire Update - June 28, 2017
Attachments: Fire Fact Sheet 6-28-17.docx



June 28, 2017

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What: 2 fires
Discovered: June 26th and 27th
Location: Bitterroot National Forest

Summary: Firefighters are working on 2 fires caused by lightning storms that went through the Bitterroot Valley. Both fires were discovered by Sula Peak Lookout. The North Trapper fire was reported on June 26th and the Sula Creek fire on June 27th. Both fires have been kept small, and at this time there are no concerns.

The North Trapper fire is 1.2 acres, burning in rocks and timber on the lower 1/3 of the mountain. Last night, a helicopter delivered bucket drops for the firefighters. They have a hose lay around the fire, and also have a pump and water source. Currently there are 10 firefighters on scene.

The Sula Creek fire is 1/10 acre, staffed with 5 firefighters. There was a line put around the fire, and it was called contained last night.

Fire Danger: Fire Danger is currently "moderate" on the Bitterroot National Forest. Fires can start from most accidental causes, but with the exception of lightning fires in some areas, the number of starts is generally low. Fires in open-cured grassland will burn briskly and spread rapidly on windy days. Woods fires spread slowly to moderately fast. The average fire is of moderate intensity, although heavy concentrations of fuel, especially draped fuel, may burn hot. Short-distance spotting may occur, but is not persistent. Fires are not likely to become serious, and control is relatively easy.

Fire Restrictions: There are no fire restrictions at this time. To stay updated, visit: <http://firerestrictions.us/>.

Special Concerns: Due to hot temperatures and low relative humidity, fuels are starting to dry out. Fire season is here. Safety of firefighters and the public is always a primary concern. Hot and dry temperatures are predicted through the month and firefighters are asking for the public's help in preventing human-caused wildfires. Never leave a campfire unattended and make sure your coals are cool to the touch before you leave.

2017 Fire Season: Firefighters have responded to 5 human caused fires and 4 lightning wildfires this summer on the Bitterroot National Forest.

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