

RICHFIELD INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER

1830 S. Industrial Park Road

Richfield, UT 84701

**contact: Karen Feary
435-896-8404**

**September 9, 2004
7:30 p.m.**

For immediate release

---- News Release---

Meadow Prescribed Burn Becomes Wildfire

Meadow, UT. The Meadow prescribed fire was being conducted five miles east of Meadow by the Bureau of Land Management when a gust of wind blew it out of prescription and it escaped onto private land, spreading north from the point of ignition along Interstate 15. The Meadow wildfire is approximately 250 acres burning in sagebrush. Prior to the escape, the prescribed burn was well within the desired burn conditions. Other than causing visibility problems on I-15, there are several powerpoles that have been burned. There are no other structures threatened.

Currently there are federal and state resources fighting the fire on the ground with a Type 3 helicopter assisting with bucket drops. A heavy air tanker made a retardant drop which helped slow the spread. There are two county dozers, two volunteer fire departments from Fillmore and Kanosh providing engines and water tenders, and five federal engines and one water tender. By 7:30 p.m. the spread of the fire slowed. "We were able to catch the fire quickly due to the availability of suppression forces" said Tom Suwyn, West Zone Fire Management Officer for the Central Utah Fire organization.

In addition to this fire, a lightning-caused fire occurred south of Kanosh. The 8-Mile fire is three acres burning in pinon/juniper, sage, and grass on U.S. Forest Service land. It is being staffed by five federal engines, one state engine, and a small handcrew.

Containment of both fires is expected later tonight.

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