



Northwest Colorado Fire Management Unit



For Immediate Release
Tuesday, September 1, 2009

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Spring Fire Expected To Be Contained Today

(Craig, CO-) Bureau of Land Management and Moffat County Sheriff's Department engines, along with a Craig Fire Rescue water tender, responded to the Spring Fire, 25 miles north of Craig off Highway 13 and Moffat County Road 3, Monday, August 31. The fire is 1,282 acres. The lightning caused fire spread rapidly under high winds during yesterday's red flag warning. West/southwest winds were pushing the fire towards Highway 13. Engine crews began a burnout operation along the east side of the highway to keep it from jumping the highway.

Four Moffat County road graders constructed fire line on the southern flank of the fire and two single engine air tankers supported the ground crews with retardant drops. A lead plane was used to guide the SEATs with their drops in the heavy smoke.

Highway 13 was closed for public and fire fighter safety late Monday afternoon for a short period of time. Colorado Department Of Transportation shuttled vehicles through a four mile stretch when it was safe to do until 9:30 p.m.

The fire is expected to be contained today. There are interior islands of unburned grass and sagebrush that may continue to burn over the next few days from which smoke will visible along Highway 13. Engines will continue to patrol the area.

The Spring Fire began Sunday, August 30, 4:30 p.m. BLM engine crews had the fire perimeter lined by 9:30 p.m. that night. Monday, August 31, winds blew embers outside the containment lines.

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