
Big Timber Ranger District News Release



For Immediate Release
Date: August 13, 2007

Contact: Marna Daley, 406-570-5526

Hicks Park Fire Continues Burning

Big Timber, MT... Hicks Park Fire, discovered last evening, is burning up the Main Boulder Drainage south of Big Timber, Montana. The fire is estimated at approximately 1,200 – 1,500 acres. The Main Boulder River Road, from Natural Bridge south is closed. The drainage has been evacuated from ClydeHurst Church Camp (near Big Beaver Campground) south to Box Canyon. From Natural Bridge to ClydeHurst Church Camp, residents have been placed on pre-evacuation notice.

For residents on pre-evacuation notice, Sweet Grass County is requiring they obtain a trip permit to access their property. The trip permits will help ensure a correct accounting of people in the drainage should evacuation become necessary. Trip permits can be obtained at the Sweet Grass County Courthouse, from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Gallatin and Custer National Forests are implementing an area closure that will include the entire West Boulder and Main Boulder drainages. The Forest Service has ordered a Type 1 Incident Command Team that will arrive this afternoon and take command of both Wicked and Hicks Park Fires sometime tomorrow.

A community meeting is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. this afternoon at the Sweet Grass County High School. Fire information can be found at www.inciweb.org, <http://www.co.sweetgrass.mt.us/>, or by calling 406-932-5155. The Emergency Operation Center (EOC) has been set up at the Sweet Grass County Courthouse at can be reached at 406-932-3014. For those evacuees in need of assistance, the Red Cross has established an emergency evacuation center at the Big Timber Civic Center.

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P.O. Box 1130 Big Timber, Montana 59011 - 1130
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