



News Release

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
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Troy Canyon Fire

Ely, Nevada...The Troy Canyon Fire, in the Grant Range Wilderness, has grown to about 900 acres. The fire was reported on Friday, July 23, and started in the headwaters of Little Meadows Canyon, on the north end of the Wilderness, and about 70 miles southwest of Ely.

“The fire has continued to increase, as we expected. It has moved north, pushed by southwest winds,” said Pat Irwin, Ely District Ranger. The District continues to monitor the fire with observation flights. In addition, the Forest Service has placed an engine at the historic mining town of Troy and the Locke mining site, though the area is not currently threatened.

The Forest Service has closed much of the Grant Range Wilderness to visitors, to ensure public safety. “While our closure covers only the northwest portion of the Wilderness, we ask people to refrain from recreating on the Grant Range Wilderness in general,” said Irwin.

On Friday, the increased fire activity created heavy smoke, and increased interest in the fire. At sunset, some of the smoke could be seen from Ely. The town of Lund was harder hit, as the smoke settled into that town.

“While the fire is moving as we expected, we are facing windy, unstable weather conditions over the next few days. We will see the fire continue to grow,” stated Doug Crocker, Fire Management Officer. Until they can secure reliable communications between the fire and Ely Dispatch, they cannot place firefighters on the fire. They have not ruled out the use of helicopter drops to cool off some parts of the fire line.

On Monday, July 26, all firefighters and equipment were pulled out of the fire, due to the tenuous communications, firefighter safety, and costs.

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