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UPPER COLORADO RIVER INTERAGENCY FIRE MANAGEMENT

NPS Colorado National Monument
BLM Grand Junction and Glenwood Springs
USFS White River and Grand Mesa National Forests

FIRE UPDATE

July 9, 2009

10 a.m.

UCR Media Information Line: 970-244-3104

Contacts: Erin Curtis 970-210-2126 or David Boyd 970-319-4130

Update on Fire Near Colorado-Utah Border

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. – Fire officials with the Upper Colorado River Fire Management Unit continue to manage the fire burning near the Utah-Colorado border this morning. The fire grew to nearly 1,000 acres yesterday, and firefighters expect it to grown again today.

The fire is in a remote area in rocky, steep terrain, and no structures are threatened. Access to the fire is limited. Fire managers are monitoring the fire from the ground and air and are currently managing the fire to benefit the vegetation and wildlife in the area.

A red flag warning is in place through 8 p.m. again today. Today air tankers may be used to keep the fire from burning farther north. Some oil and gas facilities and ranch structures are in the general area but are not currently threatened.

Smoke was visible throughout the Grand Valley and behind the Bookcliffs yesterday afternoon, and is likely to be visible again this afternoon when fire activity picks up.

Firefighters responded to the fire on Tuesday, July 7, at about 1:30 p.m., and say the likely cause of the fire is lightning. It is currently burning in Garfield County in Colorado and has burned about 200 acres in Utah.

Resources on the fire include 14 personnel, including smokejumpers, one engine crew, and a fuels crew.

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Note to Media: For those interested in getting closer to the fire, we will provide an opportunity this afternoon. The fire is in a remote location, and we are not sure how close we can get, but if you are interested in joining us, call Erin Curtis or David Boyd at the numbers above.

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