



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
**Grand Teton National Park**

Joan Anzelmo / Jackie Skaggs  
307/739-3415 - 307/739-3393

National Forest Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
**Bridger-Teton National Forest**



Mary Cernicek  
307/739-5564

---

## Interagency News Release

**For Immediate Release**

August 20, 2006

### **Lightning-Caused Fire Near Hechtman Lake Managed for Resource Benefits**

Teton interagency fire personnel will monitor a lightning-ignited fire, the Hechtman Fire, and manage it for resource benefits according to Grand Teton National Park's fire management plan. The Hechtman Fire is located in a remote portion of the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway, (JDR) in the vicinity of Hechtman Lake and south of Mount Berry.

The fire ignited from lightning strikes which most likely occurred early last week and smoldered undetected until Saturday afternoon, August 19, when high afternoon temperatures and winds caused the fire to flare up.

On Saturday afternoon when the fire was first spotted by air it was estimated at 50 acres. By 5 p.m., the Hechtman Fire had grown to approximately 300 acres. The fire is burning in stands of beetle killed lodgepole pine and spruce fir trees. The fire has potential for some additional spread in this same fuel type. The fire does not threaten people or structures.

The Hechtman Fire was evaluated according to park and national fire policy procedures and approved for wildland fire use by an interagency fire management committee. Such naturally ignited fires are closely monitored to ensure public and firefighter safety, while allowing natural processes to function within a designated wildland fire use zone. The fire will be monitored by air daily to survey the fire's activity and growth.

The current fire danger rating for Grand Teton National Park and the Bridger-Teton National Forest is **Very High**. To report a fire in either area, please call (307) 739-3630. To view fire information for the park visit [www.nps.gov/grte](http://www.nps.gov/grte)

**-XXX-**