



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

Jackie Skaggs/Kim McMahon
307.739.3393 / 307.739.3431

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



Mary Cernicek
307.739.5564

Interagency News Release

For Immediate Release

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Lightning Ignites Fire in Grand Teton National Park

Teton interagency fire personnel responded to a report of a fire in Grand Teton National Park late Wednesday afternoon, July 18. The lightning-caused Hermitage Fire was located on the west side of Hermitage Point about one-quarter mile from the shore of Jackson Lake. The fire likely began as a result of a thunderstorm that passed through the area on July 17, and was burning in a forest of lodgepole pines when first discovered. The Hermitage Fire was contained at .2 of an acre in size at 8:45 Wednesday night and controlled by 10:07 on Thursday morning, July 19.

A backcountry hiker reported the Hermitage Fire about 4:40 p.m. on Wednesday. An initial attack team consisting of three firefighters from a Teton interagency helitack crew reached the area at 5:15 p.m. and quickly began suppression efforts. In addition, an interagency contract helicopter responded to conduct water bucket drops on the fire. The initial attack crew transitioned to a park incident commander and crew of five at 6:00 Wednesday night, and two firefighters remained overnight to monitor the fire.

Grand Teton Lodge Company supported the effort by shuttling firefighters to the scene with Lodge Company boats, and additional equipment was transported by a Grand Teton National Park watercraft. No structures were threatened and no trail closures were initiated due to this fire.

The current fire danger rating is listed as Extreme for both Grand Teton National Park and the Bridger-Teton National Forest.

To report either smoke or a fire, please call 307.739.3630. For further information about fires in the greater Jackson Hole area, please contact Bridger-Teton National Forest at 307.739.5500 or visit www.tetonfires.com.

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