

Ed- Here are my corrections and additions to the notes you took during my interview on October 30, 2012.

#1 & #2- Are correct

#3 This one is correct with several corrections "He did not see anymore" fighting the fire directly, just lighting us up. (Referring to burning out or back burning my Property)

#4 Correct with the following additions. 8/11 Bill got a text saying the fire was in Yocum Valley @ Onion Knoll, burning there and into Albertson Property where my cattle are summered.

#5 I called my brother John & headed for Yocum thru Long Valley using 3940 # Forest Road as 4017 Forest Road would be burned there. As I approached the Junction of Hay Creek, Strawberry & Long Valley I took 3940 # Forest Road that was north of Governor Ridge and East of Long Valley. I started running into loggers removing trees on Governors Ridge side of road along with numerous Fire Crews clearing also on East side of 3940 Forest Road. As I reached the top of hill between Yocum and Long Valley I ran into a local contractor cat crew. After visiting with them I found out the fire was still in the Dog Lake basin hung up in the old Onion Burn. They also said they were preparing this block of 6 to 8000 acres that included Governors Ridge & Private property in Yocum Valley to be back burned.

By then brother John pulled up behind me with his pick up and trailer with his back-hoe. John and I headed down into Albertson Property in Yocum Valley, we stopped at the cinder pit pondering, what we had learned from the Cat Crew. As

we were outside talking a F.S. fire crew pick-up with a Hot-shot crew super came out of our property that my cows were on, he and 2 others in the pick-up stopped to talk to us. We asked him if it was true that they were going to back burn Governors Ridge into Yocum and East of 3940 back to Dog Lake, he said yes, tonight or tomorrow night. We asked why when the fire is hung up in the old Onion fire east of 4017 Forest Road in the Dog Lake Basin. He said he was following orders. We asked and got a list of names and numbers for the IC head and his team.

We left John's pick-up and back hoe in the valley and took my pick-up over to 4017 Forest road, we drove up to the top hill of Yocum and Green Valley. The fire was east of 4017 over the rim. There was no wind. It was very calm, dead silence, almost eerie. We went to an old Forest Service rock pit to call out on our cell phones. John called Brian Watts IC commander and asked why we were not contacted about the back burn which would burn all of Leo Albertsons and my timber in Yocum Valley, he said he was sorry, my bad! John called Dustin Gustaveson from State Forestry, he told John that Mike Carlson would meet him in Yocum later that night to see where possible cat lines could be established on Rim above Dog Lake.

The Garrett ranch was moving their cattle off the Governor Ridge allotment, some on us and some into the Dog Lake marsh. Then we waited for awhile for Rick Wagoner with ODF to call John back. We finally left the Rock Pit and went down the hill into Green Valley, and turned around @ Green Creek. We did not see one fire fighter from Yocum Valley on 4017 to Green Valley. We wondered why they weren't prepping 4017 instead of 3940 road, miles from the fire. We

went back to Albertson Property in the middle of Yocum Valley to spend the night at the corrals. We had heard earlier on a Forest Service radio, that they wanted someone to make contact with us to possibly have us leave for our safety. A couple of hours later a woman showed up and asked us if we were staying the night. We told her yes right here on Albertson Property.

Mike Carlson with ODF came by and picked up John, they went to the top of the hill in Yocum and Green Valley, and John showed him where he could put in cat lines east of 4017 and back fire and burn into the fire on the Dog Lake side of the rim and not burn Governors Ridge.

While John was gone I could here a cat working north of us on my father's property then I could see lights, it went clear across the Valley East, to my place west of 4017.

August 12, 2012 we awoke to smoke so thick you couldn't see $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. John and I went back to rock pit over looking Green Valley. There were fire crews prepping 4017 from the Yocum Valley to the top of hill of Yocum. We pulled in the old rock pit and turned our cell phone on. John had received a message from Rick Wagner from ODF. It said they were calling off burning Governors Ridge and would move closer and possibly do a back burn that made sense. We went back to the corrals were we had previously spent the night. I told John I was going to check the FS cat line they had put in on dads and to check the fences. The cat came out of FS land and went threw our gate which they never closed. I saw cattle tracks in the cat line going out in the FS proposed back burn area. Luckily I found them and put them back on us, I closed the gate and followed the line thru our meadow and out

of our property about 1/8 mile from a gate, here they cut our fence and left it. I didn't have fencing tools so I fixed it back the best I could until I could come back later and fix it right.

I went back to the corrals I met up with my brother John and told him what I found. Not only did they not tell us that they were going to burn us out, they put a cat line that would not of stopped a fire, left a gate open to allow cows to get out in the very area they were going to burn. They had also cut our East fence and did all of this without notifying the land owner. We spent the rest of the day prepping around dad's cabin.

The fire didn't move much today, no wind and the West boundary of fire is hung up under the rim on Dog Lake side in the old Onion Burn. John and I went home for a few hours and come back to see what would happen next. After dark we would see they were back burning from Green Valley up the hill thru the rock pit about (East) of 4017. We could also see headlamps on top where John had shown Mike Carlson to make a cat line. After awhile we could see small fires starting approx $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of 4017 on top of Rim between Yocum and Dog Lake.

Around 10:30pm we went home. The next morning brother John went to the 6:00am daily meeting at the fairgrounds. The day shift firefighters had to attend. John had a meeting with Travis assistant Chief of fire for ODF, Dustin Gustaveson, Greg Pittman, Bryan Watts, IC commander outgoing and Steve Gage incoming IC commander. He asked them can you back burn or burn out private property without notifying the land owners, they can't.

About 7:00am John stopped by my folks place and told us what he found out at the meeting. A few minutes later my brother Hank called from Green Valley and said the back fire from the night before had jumped 4017 road and was burning in on me. I left immediately heading for Yocum using 4017, John went home to pick up his back hoe. As I crossed Green Creek (Where the back burn was started the night before I did not see one firefighter all the way up the hill) As I topped over into Yocum I drove thru approx $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of fire on both sides of the road and again no firefighters anywhere. As I turned off of 4017 onto the road that accesses my property brother Hank and his wife met me. Hank got in with me, a lone forest service employee asked how many was going into fight the back burn on my property. I told him Hank, I, and brother John would be here with a back hoe in 15 minutes. As we went down the hill, we went from FS land to private property that is $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ miles from my east property line. Just thru the gate there was 2 spot fires about as big as a house, one on either side of the access road. The breeze was coming out of South & East the 2 spot fires were south and west of the fire. I remember thinking how odd we have 2 spot fires so far from the fire and in the wrong direction of the breeze. We went on thru another neighbor property then on to my own land. I parked north of the meadow, I look at my watch it said 8:08am. Hank and I took water and shovels; we went to the NE corner, no fire here yet. We could see it 200 yards up the hill towards 4017, we moved south, the fire had already burned in on me about mid point of my East property line. Hank and I started making a fire line with our shovels. John arrived and widened the line south to the property access road.

We expected the fire crew to show up to help us, but they never did. About 9:30-9:45 am I heard numerous chain saws running thru the morning, they kept getting closer. Around 10:15 am we had a line on the inside of my fence and were trying to stop the fire from going any further south on my neighbor's property. During the time we were fighting the fire it was low and slow, and not enough breeze to make it spread very fast. I walked up to the access road and met a super he said two cats were coming and should be there by 11:00am. I told him that I had heard them earlier west of us. Around 11:00 am both cats showed up. A forest served cat and a contractor cat out of Bly, operated by John Richmond and a FS cat boss who asked us if we could show them where to go. I told him they need to hit the south fire line between us and 4017, which both cats did. Both cats came back to where they started, the contractor cat and cat boss went back up the new line to widen it. The FS cat and cat boss followed me north along my east fence line that was already burned, and the fire was out. The cat boss didn't act like he wanted to cross the black. I told him we need to get the north end of the back burn as the fire is spreading north and west towards Governor's Ridge. We finally got him to the fire area east and north of me, when a tree crowned and he said "This fire is trying to tell us something". He told the operator to drop back to a safe area a couple yards down the hill. John and I went on ahead throwing dirt with our shovels on little spot fires. About $\frac{1}{2}$ hour later we heard the cat fire up. Even though we were on the west line we could see that if we could just get the cat another 200 yards up the hill, he could turn east and have the fire contained. The sound of the cat got dimmer and dimmer they never came back. John and I went back to the back hoe, pretty

bewildered, wondering if the fire would burn Governor's Ridge and all our timber.

John and I drove the back hoe out of the timber after checking our fire line. As we came out in the meadow we saw the 5 grey back fire fighter rigs leaving my meadow where they had been parked.

After arriving at the pick up John and I decided to have John clean off an area for his back-hoe just in case. Then John said I am going back to check our fire line. About that time Lake County Sheriff Phil McDonald showed up looking for Hank. He had made contact with Hanks wife, who was worried about his safety.

Hank and I visited with Phil about our morning work, fighting the back burn without any help from FS or ODF. 2 helicopters came and started dropping water on the south and north line, also 2 dipper air tankers dumped 2 loads a piece on the north line.

After about 30 minutes John had not returned. The fire crews where still lighting up the second back burn off of my access road instead of 4017 FS road.

I told Phil and Hank I was worried about John being in the 2nd back burn fire area. Hank said he would go look for him. He came back without my brother John; he said that he could not find him. By now I was thinking John probably got burned up in the new back burn, because he had no way of knowing that they were going to light me up again. After Hank left a woman FS fire fighter came across the meadow and came back where Phil and I were standing and I asked her what she was doing. She replied looking for spot fires in the area that

we were in. I told Hank that I was going to look for John and for him to stay put.

I then went to the NE corner of my property and I could hear a cat coming off the hill from the north, off of FS land. I saw my brother John walking with the cat crew, I told John I thought you got burned up since no FS or ODF people had even notified us of the second back burn. John said that John Richmond and his cat boss had stopped the fire from reaching Governor's Ridge. The helicopter and air tankers had left as suddenly as they appeared. All the FS fire fighting crews were walking single file out of the area. I told John to go to the pick up and stay put. I went west from my NW corner to see if there were any spot fires on my property. As I came out of the timber on my property I saw a FS, a State Forestry, the Sheriff's, and a federal law enforcement pick up, with several people talking to the Sheriff, and my brothers John and Hank. I walked up to the group and asked who they were, as I did not know the FS person. He introduced himself as Randy Ostman, Private land owner liaison. Rick Wagner, Kelly Carlson, Dustin Gustaveson with the ODF, Mark Suba federal law enforcement, deputy sheriff Daniel Tague, and Sheriff Phil McDonald. I asked why they back burned me the second time today there was no reason to burn me out. The closest fire was well over a mile or more from me, there was nothing but green forest south of me. 4017 FS road was 400 yards up the hill from my south boundary line, why did they not burn off of it since it was already prepped. I asked the ODF did you know they were going to burn me out this afternoon, they said no. I asked who gave the orders to burn me a second time today, the first back burn the Albertson's controlled it without any fire fighters help. Neither the FS liaison nor the ODF could tell me who and why. Now 8 months after the fire I still do not

know anymore that the day of the back burn. Fred Way needs to find another job. He wants all of us that got burned out to be friends and good neighbors again with the FS.

Senator Whitsett and Congressman Walden both toured the private land burned during the Barry Point fire at different times. When Congressman Walden toured the area there was several FS employees including Fred Way. When we arrived at my property Fred chose to stay back and visit with the neighbor lady at the rigs instead of seeing what happened on August 13, 2012 on my property. If you would ask Fred today what happened on the Albertson's property he would have no clue. Fred left his post towards the end of the fire, if you are hired to manage a forest or any other business you don't leave your post when things have gone to hell in a hand basket. Yes, I was very stressed and emotional and still am after 8 months of stonewalling, meetings, letters, interviews, and still no answers from the Federal or State fire agencies. Other than they did agree in a January 2013 FS meeting over 50% of the fire was either back burned or burned out, as they call this "fire suppression". I saw a report that over 12,000 acres of private and over 42,000 acres of national forest was burned on the Oregon side during the Barry Point Fire. Yes, I broke down during my interview with Ed Shepard and Roy Montgomery. When you see your property being burned from a back burn that FS and ODF had allowed to burn in on you with only your 2 brothers and yourself fighting it and all but stopping it without fire agencies help. Then without any consideration of your land or the very safety of your lives, light you up a second time. My brother John disappearing during the second back burn of the day, and both Hank and I looking for him thinking that he had been

burned up in the second back burn of the day, as no one notified us it was going to happen. If the wind had changed to the normal SW flow we could have all been burned up without any way out.

The government fire agencies whether FS or ODF personnel on IC teams lack leadership, they are indifferent and arrogant to the land owner, they ask no permission, recognize safety for themselves but not for the land owners, no communication, totally disconnected from land owners feelings in regards to there property rights, they do not use local fire officers that know the area and the terrain, not to mention the land owners. The 6:00am fire fighters meeting every morning wasted valuable fire fighting time as they were up to three hours between shift changes and the fire was left unchecked and unattended and to burn wherever. My two questions I want answered are-

To You
#1 If the government puts a boot ~~on the neck~~ who protects you and your property rights from being burned or taken by any other means?

#2 Why can't the government officials tell us the TRUTH about the Barry Point fire and the wrong decisions that were made when they burnt our property?

In closing, the people of Lake County should be outraged of the "suppression" acreage burned in the Barry Point fire. Over 50% for suppression acres is unacceptable. My faith in the FS and ODF has been lost.

I would like to thank Lake County Commissioner Dan Shoun,
Sheriff Phil McDonald, Senator Doug Whitsett, and
Congressman Walden for all there help, and concern.

Thanks

Bill Albertson

M-1

Prof 3940
for Burnout
as of SATITE
3/16/12

NIGHT SHIFT
8-12-12 BACK
BURNGREEN VALLEY
into Private

Back Burn Set
off Private
8-12-12
1600 Acres
Barry Point
Fire

Branch II

Div Z

Div N

DIV A

H-8

H-7

H-11

DP-12

DP-100

H-2

H-14

H-13

DP-5

H-4

DIV B

DP-1

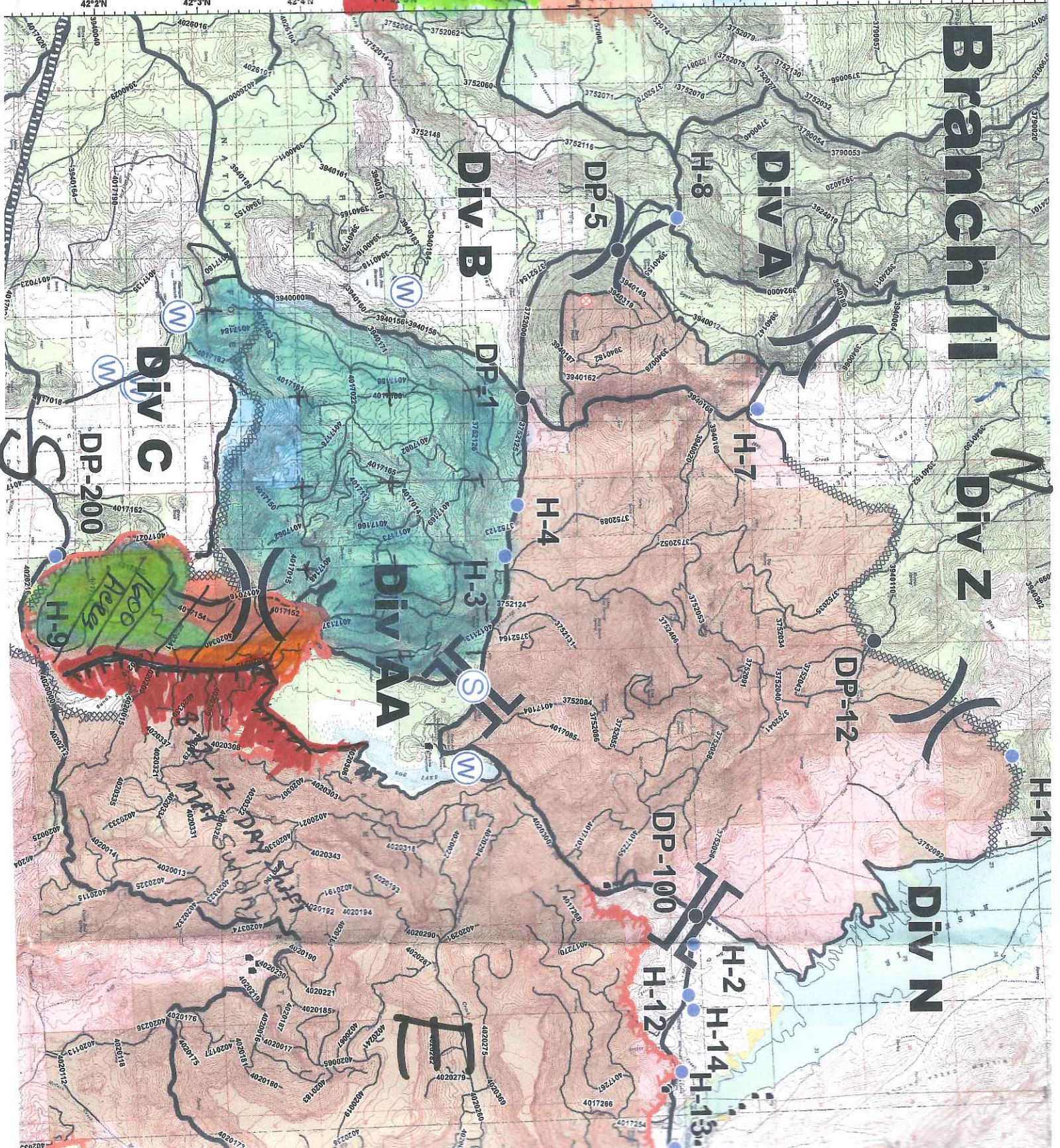
H-3

DIV AA

Div C

DP-200

H-9



8-13-12 Monday Yocum Valley, Oregon

N

Barry Point Fire
over this Ridge



M-2

S

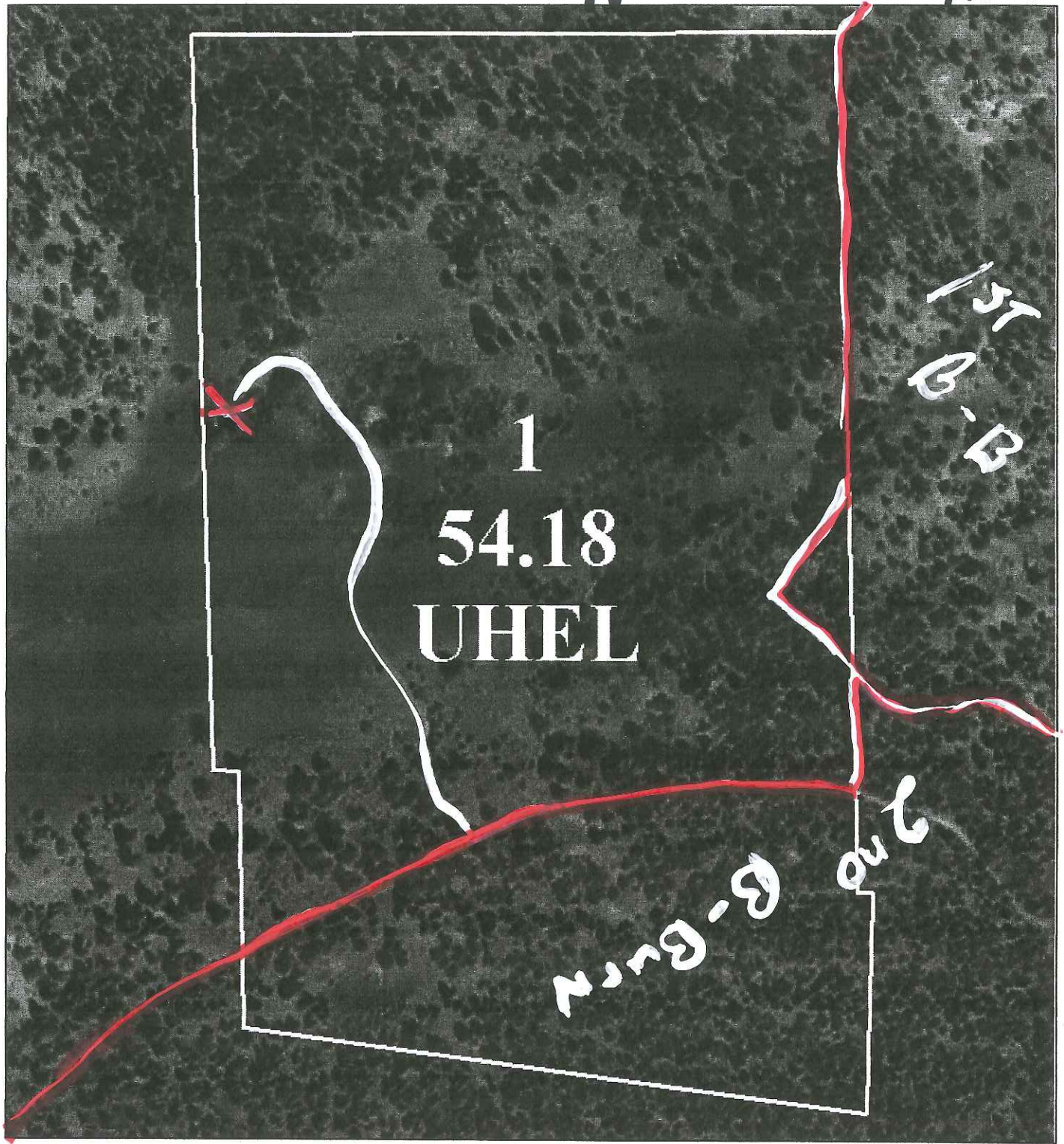


N

M-3

W

E



United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency

2013 Lake County, OR

Farm: 456

Tract: 1877



Wetland Determination Identifiers

- Restricted Use
- ▽ Limited Restrictions
- Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions
- Section Boundary
- CLU Boundary

USDA FSA maps are for FSA Program administration only. This map does not represent a legal survey or reflect actual ownership; rather it depicts the information provided directly from the producer and for the 2012 or the rectified imagery for Oregon. The producer accepts the data as is and assumes all risks associated with its use. The USDA Farm Service Agency assumes no responsibility for actual or consequential damage incurred as a result of any use of this data outside FSA Programs. Wetland identifiers do not represent the size, shape, or specific determination of the area. Refer to your original determination (CRA-D25 and attached maps) for exact boundaries and determinations, or contact NRCS.

1" equals 256'

S

M-4

Fire Behavior Forecast # 09

Name of Incident: Barry Point	Administrative Unit: OR-FWF
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Date & Time Issued: 08/12/2012 @2000	Operational Period: DAY 08/13/2012
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FBAN: Steve Ziel	Signed: <i>[Signature]</i>
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Assumptions: ... Expect very active fire behavior again today due to high temperature, low RH, very dry fuels, breezy SW aftn. winds, and atmospheric instability. Low RH coincides with peak heating and W-SW winds during peak burning period (1400-1800). Surface heating will result in upslope and upvalley winds that will influence fire spread. Expect breezy SW winds in the afternoon - watch for wind alignment and wind eddy effect to result in localized fire conditions. Fuels (both live and dead) are very dry and will generate rapid heat build-up and rapid spread. Cumulative effect of current conditions, poor nighttime RH recovery, and an unstable atmosphere may produce areas of extreme fire behavior

Weather Summary

See attached Weather Forecast . *See Fire Weather Forecast

Fire Behavior Summary

Fuels in the fire area are primarily composed of cured grass, mixed grass and brush (less than 2 ft. tall), and timber with understory. Primary timber species include Ponderosa Pine, Western Juniper, and True Fir (at higher elevations). Brush and understory includes Mountain Mahogany, Bitterbrush, conifer dog-hair thickets, sagebrush, and Ceonothus (at higher elevations). Snags are common throughout timbered areas and may contribute to spotting. Live fuels will contribute to fire intensity and rate of spread.

Today's fire behavior may include areas of very active surface fire spread, high intensity flare ups with torching and long range spotting. Continuous fuels may produce sustained crowning runs when combined wind and slope. Expect sustained backing and active lateral spread (with torching) where fuels are continuous throughout the period. Where it is occurring High intensity fire behavior may result in profuse spotting and/ or crown fire activity that may lead to strong head fire development.

* Fine fuel moisture of 2%(exposed fuels) and 4%(shaded fuels). Bitterbrush moisture 90%, Sagebrush 50%-60%

Fuel Type	Rate of Spread	Flame Length	Spotting Distance	*20 mph wind and/or 40% Slope
Grass (GR2)	35-45 ch/hr.	4 - 6 feet	.3 mile	90-110 ch/hr 7-9 FL
Grass with mixed shrub (GS2)	20-25 ch/hr	5 - 7 feet	.5mile	50-60 ch/hr 8-9 FL
Timber with Understory (TU5)	8-10 ch/hr	7-9 feet	.5 mile	15-20 ch/hr 10-12 FL
*GS2 - primary spread fuel type			*P ig 90%-100%	*High intensity condition

Specific Assignments:

Div. A/B Z/X/N - Watch for flare-ups in unburned fuel pockets along the line. Interior flare-ups may result in spotting across fireline.
 Div. M - Fire will continue to be active on the ridge south of Rd. 4017 (Dog lake Rd.). Expect high intensity flare-ups as the fire flanks to the east. Spotting may accelerate the flanking lateral spread. Topography will contribute to localized flare-ups and spread direction.
 DIV. ZZ- Fire will continue to back with torching and flare-ups. Watch for rapid heat build-up with high intensity fire behavior due afternoon heating and winds. Spotting may become problematic in areas of active torching. Expect localized winds in Dry Cr. area.
 Div. PP - Fire will continue to back with flare-ups, expect crown fire runs on steeper slope with SW afternoon winds.
 Div. AA/CC - Expect backing with flare-ups and spotting to continue. Downhill spotting will result in rapid uphill spread . Ceonothus brush will support fire spread and intensity. Expect localized squirrely winds in the Green Springs Cr. area. Watch for rollers on slopes.

Air Operations: Expect smoke inversion in the morning. Smoke dissipation should occur earlier in the day.

Safety

Watch Out when...Weather is becoming hotter and drier...when wind increases and/or changes direction...when you are getting frequent spot fires across line.....when terrain and fuels make escape to safety zones difficult.

**Isolated flare-up are possible in areas that have not shown activity for a couple days. Snags may fall into fresh fuel. Winds may kindle smoldering fuels to flame.....(review Common Denominators of Fire Behavior on Tragedy Fires (Page 4 - IRPG).