

Escaped field burn scorches 14 acres

by Cheryl McDermott

An escaped agricultural field burn off Tumalo Reservoir Road northeast of Bend scorched 14 acres across two properties Thursday afternoon, fire officials reported.

More than a dozen Bend Fire Department personnel responded to an alarm at 18431 Pinehurst Road shortly before 1:30 p.m., Battalion Chief Dave Howe said. When they arrived, they found the fire was approaching several outbuildings.

Luckily for John and Nancy Mobely, the property owners, the outbuildings sustained no damage and there were no injuries reported. According to Howe, the fire caused about \$450 damage to a horse trailer and some irrigation pipe.

The Oregon Department of Forestry assisted with the firefighting efforts.

Chief Howe reminds citizens that agricultural burning within the Deschutes County Fire Protection District #2 requires a burn permit available for an annual \$15 fee, and an inspection of the area to be burned. "It is critical that adequate firefighting resources be in place before burning proceeds," said Howe. "This includes people, water and the means to deliver it, and tractors or backhoes."

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