



News Release

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GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION RANGERS FIGHT OREGON WILDFIRES

A group of Georgia Forestry Commission Rangers has been dispatched to eastern Oregon to help fight spreading wildfires. The 18-member "hand crew," which uses shovels, rakes, and specialized tools near the fire's front lines, left Macon on Friday, August 10, and will serve a 14-21 day tour of duty.

The fire, named the "Coleman Creek Fire," was ignited by a lightning strike on August 5, according to the Northwest Interagency Coordination Center (NWCC), which dispatches regular updates about the fire situation. The fire is located on federal Bureau of Land Management property, and has consumed approximately 9,700 acres.

"The fire is on extremely rugged, steep terrain," said Robert Farris, Interim Director of the Georgia Forestry Commission. "Our people are highly trained in wildland firefighting, and worked to suppress Georgia's unprecedented fires this spring. I expect them to contribute greatly to the containment of the Oregon fires."

The NWCC reports the Coleman Creek Fire is currently 40% contained.

In nearby Idaho, another GFC team is serving on a three-fire complex. Thirty members of the GFC's Type 2 Incident Management team are performing fire management duties on that blaze in the southern part of the state.

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