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News Release
For Immediate Release
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Wildfire Burning Southeast of Tooele in Settlement Canyon

Tooele, Utah -- The Settlement Fire was reported this morning, August 6 at about 7:30 a.m. and is thought to be lightning caused. The 120-acre fire is burning on steep slopes in sagebrush, Gambel Oak, and timber. Today the fire was fought primarily from the air using two helicopters dumping water on the hottest areas. About 8 personnel were shuttled in to fight from the ground, but unpredictable winds and steep terrain made progress difficult. A 22-person hand crew arrived on the fire at about 7 p.m. and will work into the evening. There are several structures threatened including about 18 cabins and numerous outbuildings less than a mile from the fire; today's tactics have been focused on protecting the Tooele watershed and providing protection to the buildings at Camp Wapiti.

Tomorrow, fire managers plan to use the hand crew and a hotshot crew to establish containment lines. With both crews, there will be about 50 firefighters on the ground working the perimeter. Command personnel are confident that their strategy using ground crews combined with the two helicopters will bring significant progress throughout the day. Three engine crews will be placed in the Camp Wapiti area to provide structure protection. Hose lines will be laid out in advance to defend the structures in the event that the fire moves through the area.

The Settlement Canyon road is closed at the reservoir and the campgrounds as well as Camp Wapiti remain under voluntary evacuation.

Acreage: 120
Jurisdiction: Private Land
Cause: Lightning
Containment: 0%
Estimated Containment: Unknown
Personnel: 40 today, 60+ tomorrow (Aug 7)

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