

JUL 30 1910

FOREST GUARD HAS PROVED ITS WORTH

MONTANA FIRES ARE ALMOST ALL
UNDER CONTROL—BAD BLAZE
IN IDAHO.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Missoula, Mont., July 30.—“We are holding our own,” said Forester W. B. Greeley of the forest service here today, against all of the fires within the jurisdiction of field district No. 1, and from the outlook today we can continue to hold the flames in check and protect most of the commercial timber on the reserves indefinitely. While a big general rain is anxiously desired, still I have no hesitancy in saying that the situation is well in hand and that we fear no heavy losses further than have already resulted.

A National Boon.

“We were in so much better condition to fight fires this year than ever before that the work has been comparatively easy. With trails and means of communication to some of the districts otherwise remote, we have reached forests and preserved a working system that has been impossible before. There is much more of this trail and telephone work to be done yet before the district can be thoroughly patrolled, but with this year's results as a gauge it can be seen what a great boon to the fire protection of the country the forestry system will be when thoroughly completed.

“This year, too, we have had the co-operation of railway and milling companies as never before, and with the men they have furnished the district is now in the best of condition.”

The general fire condition is improved today, although there are several new blazes reported and demanding immediate attention.

Supervisor Koch of the Lolo forest came from the McFarland Creek fire, one of the largest in the district, and asks for more men today. He states the blaze has swept an area two miles square, but that with more men at once it can now be stopped.

Bad Blaze at Quartz.

A ranger at Quartz reports a fire at Fish Lake, just over the Montana-Idaho divide into Idaho and his request for 15 men has been granted and they will be sent from Missoula tomorrow. Ranger McGregor secured 10 more men here today for his fire at Nine Mile, making a total of 60 men employed there. The ranger is of the opinion that this large force should be able to get the fire well under control in two days.

The Graves Creek fire, on the Idaho side of the divide opposite Cedar Creek, has burned over an area of six miles long and two miles wide, and is now spreading towards Trout Creek. Today the government outfit of about 20 animals that was at Henderson was ordered to Iron Mountain to take on a load and hit the trail

thoroughly completed.

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FIRE MENACES POWDER.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Spokane, Wash., July 30.—To save a car of blasting powder from the forest fires which are raging around the Big creek region in northern Idaho, the Milwaukee railroad's crew which is building a branch line has buried the entire carload at the mouth of the creek. Most of the railway laborers are now fighting the flames.