

At 4:54 pm, Bend Fire & Rescue was dispatched to a reported brush fire in the area of Highway 20 East and Ten Barr Road. Initial reports indicated that the fire was spreading rapidly, and additional units were requested while still en route. Upon arrival, an approximately 2 acre brush fire moving quickly in windy conditions and through heavy brush and juniper was found. With the assistance of the US Forest Service, Oregon Department of Forestry, Bureau of Land Management, and Alfalfa Fire District, the fire was quickly held at 2 acres, with extensive mop up operations needed due to the brush and juniper. Mutual aid was also provided by Redmond Fire, who provided district coverage.

Three properties were affected by the fire: 23262 E. Hwy 20, 61697 Ten Barr Ranch Road, and 61725 Ten Barr Ranch Road. The property at 23262 E. Hwy 20, where the fire originated, sustained damage to fencing, vegetation, and a small 2017 travel trailer. The property at 61725 Ten Barr Ranch Road sustained damage to trees, vegetation, and fencing. The fire was moving towards the residence at 61697 Ten Barr Ranch Road, but was stopped at the back deck of the home with minor damage to the exterior only.

Upon investigation, it was found that the fire originated near the property line at 23262 E. Hwy 20, and was caused by cigarette butts discarded improperly into duff and light vegetation near the property line.

Careless disposal of cigarettes and smoking materials is the leading cause of fires in Bend. Never discard cigarettes into landscaping or mulch, always use a container made of non-combustible materials such as glass or metal. For more tips on how to keep safe this summer, please visit <https://www.bendoregon.gov/government/departments/fire-rescue/safety-tips-emergency-preparedness/year-round-safety-tips>.

