



Basalt & Rural Fire Protection District

“Protecting Our Community Since 1970”

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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At 2:19pm the Basalt & Rural Fire Protection District and the Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District were dispatched to a report of a wildland fire in the area of Holland Hills near the Arbaney-Kittle trailhead. The first arriving fire units reported a ¼ acre fire on fairly steep slope. The fire was burning in annual grasses, pinion, juniper, and mountain brush. Crews from Gould Construction and Flame-Out Fire Protection were in the area and both were on scene with fire extinguishers and water trucks when the fire department arrived.

Crews worked rapidly working around both sides of the fire and had the fire contained at about 3:00pm. Crews will be on scene until dusk working the interior of the fire and ensuring that the containment line is solid. The fire was located just down valley of the Alpine Meadows Ranch & Kennels adjacent to the parking area at the Arbaney-Kittle Trailhead.

One civilian, who was helping with initial firefighting efforts, was being treated on the scene for a minor injury.

There is a power outage in the area and Holy Cross Energy is on scene. The fire is believed to have started under the powerline; witnesses reported hearing an explosion at the time of the power outage and shortly before the fire was reported. It is believed that the fire was started due to this electrical issue, however specifics regarding the electrical lines were not available at time of the release.

The Basalt & Rural Fire Protection District and the Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District responded to the scene with 4 engines, 1 tender, 1 ambulance, a command vehicle and a chief officer. At the time of this release there were 12 firefighters on scene. The firefighters were assisted on scene by the Pitkin County Sheriff's Office, the Basalt Police Department, Holy Cross Energy, Flame-Out Fire Protection and Gould Construction.

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