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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE                     (605) 773-3478

Inmates Assisting With Fighting Grizzly Gulch Fire

(Pierre) - State prison inmates are among the firefighters along the fire lines near Deadwood.

One hundred twenty-three inmates are assisting fighting the Grizzly Gulch fire. The crew is made up of inmates from the Mike Durfee State Prison, Yankton Trusty Unit, Redfield Trusty Unit, Custer Trusty Unit and the Trusty unit of the Jameson Annex to the State Penitentiary.

Many of the inmates have been on the fire lines since Saturday.

All of the inmates on the fire lines are Forest Service trained and certified firefighters.

Many of the twenty-one correctional officers supervising the inmate crews are also trained and certified firefighters.

For more information on the inmate fire suppression work, go to the Department of Corrections website at http://www.state.sd.us/corrections/fire_supression.htm.

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