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Chadrad Communications, Inc.
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601
E-mail: kcsr@chadrad.com

(S.D.) - Fire burns 3,500-5,000 acres, authorities say

By: John Thayer Posted at: 04/25/2012 07:05 AM

REGIONAL - More than 10 fire departments were dispatched to a grass fire late last night near Smithwick, S.D.

Fall River Authorities estimated that 3,500-5,000 acres burned in the blaze that was believed to have been started by lightning.

Fall River dispatch said early Wednesday morning six local fire departments were called to the scene and that departments were starting to be released after midnight. They also said Emergency Management was released at 3:15 a.m. and more units after 4:00 a.m.

According to the Chadron Police Department departments were called for mutual aid from Harrison, Crawford and Chadron. It is believed Hay Springs, Gordon and Rushville were activated as well.

Chadron PD said the final Chadron unit returned to the fire hall at 5:53 a.m.

Fall River County Authorities were unsure how many other departments from South Dakota and Nebraska were contacted for mutual aid.

(Questions, Comments or Concerns with this story? Email john@chadrad.com)

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