Wellington Fire Protection District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CATTLE FIRE
March 5, 2017 | 12:30 p.m.

WELLINGTON, Colo – At about 3 p.m. Saturday, March 4, 2017, Wellington Fire Protection District (WFPD) was dispatched to a report of a grassfire located at 20672 Cattle Dr., north of Wellington.

After arriving on scene, crews found a fast moving grass fire and began a direct attack to extinguish the fire. Due to strong winds, the fire traveled to the north and east growing from approximately 300 acres to over 1,000 acres in a short period. Several homes in the area of CR. 5, north of CR. 82, were placed on a pre-evacuation notice, which was lifted at 8:30 p.m.

At about 6:30 p.m. the Cattle Fire was 85 percent contain and at approximately 1,996 acres. Cooler temperatures allowed crews to gain an upper hand on the fire and have 100 percent containment at about 11:30 p.m. Wellington Fire crews remained on scene over night to mop-up and monitor any hotspots.

As of Sunday, March 5, 2017, the size of the Cattle Fire is approximately 2,000 acres. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. There were no structures lost, and there were no civilian or firefighter injuries. This area is home to many bison and cattle, and there were no animals injured or displaced during the fire.

The Nunn Volunteer Fire Department, Platte River Power Authority, and Larimer County Office of Emergency Services, Loveland Fire, Poudre Fire Authority, Rist Canyon Fire and Livermore Fire, and Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control assisted Wellington Fire Protection District.

WELLINGTON, Colo, March 6, 2017 – Wellington Fire Protection District has identified the cause of the Cattle Fire. Welding sparks falling into the prairie grass started the fire unintentionally. The updated approximate size of the fire is 2100 acres.

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