

## Fire season begins in Yuma County

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

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Smoke south of Holyoke was clearly visible Wednesday, April 9 as a cornstalk and pasture fire burned for close to five hours 10 miles south and three miles west of Holyoke in Yuma County.

Ten fire departments helped control the fire, according to Yuma County emergency manager Roger Brown. Wauneta's fire department was the first to respond and was quickly followed by Wray, Eckley, Holyoke, Wages, Yuma, Sandhills, Vernon, Amherst and Haxtun.



**Viewed from atop Ballyneal Golf Course, smoke from a cornstalk and pasture fire southwest of Holyoke filled the afternoon sky for nearly five hours Wednesday, April 9, as multiple fire departments worked to get the fire under control.□□**

**—Enterprise photo**

Wray ambulances, Yuma County sheriff's office and Colorado State Patrol were also on hand, and the Holyoke Police Department helped close down Highway 385 as fears grew that the fire would jump the road in the windy conditions.

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Arriving on scene close to 2 p.m., firefighters worked until close to 7 p.m. to ensure the fire was out.

When the fire was subdued, between 1,500-2,000 acres had been burned. Highway 385 helped contain the fire, greatly limiting its path. No structures were harmed during the blaze, but one firefighter was treated for minor injuries.

Yuma County and two area fertilizer companies furnished semis with water to help douse the fire.

The Wray fire department has taken the lead on the investigation. As of Tuesday, April 15, no information had been released regarding the cause of the fire.

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