



MEDIA RELEASE

HAMLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Incident Code:	Rapidly Spreading Grass Fire Contained Near Poinsett
Date of Call:	April 18th, 2026
Time of Call:	1:22pm CDT
Location:	Near Northwest Lake Drive / SD Highway 28
Details:	
<p>LAKE POINSETT - At approximately 1:22 p.m. on Saturday, April 18, 2026, a 911 caller reported a large fire in a field was spreading quickly toward the southeast near Lake Poinsett.</p>	
<p>The Lake Norden Fire Department and the Hamlin County Sheriff's Office responded to the scene. Upon arrival, first responders observed the fire spreading rapidly from northwest to westerly winds and threatening a couple of homes in the area. Additional assistance was requested from the Estelline Fire Department.</p>	
<p>Firefighters and a deputy from the Hamlin County Sheriff's Office conducted checks of nearby residences to ensure evacuation if necessary. Fortunately, no occupants were home at the time. Crews established a defensive line along Northwest Lake Drive to prevent the fire from crossing the roadway and impacting structures.</p>	
<p>The fire continued to advance but was ultimately stopped at the lake's northern edge, preventing further spread.</p>	
<p>Crews battled the blaze for approximately two hours before bringing it completely under control.</p>	
<p>The cause of the fire has been determined to be a tractor baler.</p>	
<p>Several hale bales, wildland grasses, and a tractor were reported damaged. Luckily, no injuries or damage to any structure were reported in the fire. The Lake Norden Ambulance was on scene as a precaution and support for fire crews.</p>	
Any defendant(s) listed are presumed innocent under the U.S. Constitution.	
AUTH/	A2 C/ 2613529





