

Fire wrecks Post Falls home

By BRIAN WALKER/Staff Writer | Posted: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 12:00 am

POST FALLS — A fire caused more than \$200,000 in estimated damages to a Post Falls home and its contents on Tuesday afternoon.

The fire at 2522 Sparrow Loop was reported around 3:15 p.m.

"The garage was destroyed and the home itself is over a 50 percent loss," said Kootenai County Fire and Rescue Chief Warren Merritt. "There's so much damage that they may have to tear it down to the foundation."

The home is owned by Troy and Tiffany Brantley, according to Kootenai County records. There were no injuries reported.

The cause of the fire is believed to be accidental, Merritt said.

"The homeowner reported that he had been welding in the garage about an hour before the fire was reported," Merritt said.

Troy and his daughter were at the home with a daylight basement when the fire started, Merritt said.

"They heard a popping noise, quickly exited and saw the fire," Merritt said.

Fire crews from the nearby station at 16th Avenue and Highway 41 arrived at the home about two minutes after it was reported.

"The garage was fully involved when firefighters arrived," Merritt said. "Firefighters did an excellent job of containing most of the damage to the home."

Siding on the homes of two neighbors was damaged.

Among the property destroyed was a Jeep in the garage and a Dodge pickup and flatbed trailer outside the garage.

Merritt said Brantley told him the home is insured.

Coeur d'Alene Fire, the Northern Lakes Fire District and Hauser Lake Fire assisted KCFR during the incident.

An investigation continues.