



STATE OF MONTANA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION  
**MONTANA DIVISION OF FORESTRY**  
2705 Spurgin Road  
Missoula, Montana 59804

**Montana Wildfire Situation Report**

Monday, August 27, 2018

<b>Preparedness Level:</b>	Northern Rockies	4	National	5
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Nationally, 45 large wildfires are being managed with a full suppression strategy and 66 additional large fires are being managed under a strategy other than full suppression.

233 soldiers from the 14<sup>th</sup> Brigade Engineer Battalion based out of Joint Base Lewis MeChord, WA are deployed in support of the Mendocino Complex.

138 fireline management personnel for Australia and New Zealand are assigned to support large fires in the California and Northwest Areas.

Regionally, the Northern Rockies Geographic Area has 28 active incidents; 79,592 cumulative acres; 49 crews; 128 engines; 16 helicopters and 2,795 total personal. The Northern Rockies Geographic Area is prioritized 4<sup>th</sup> nationally out of the 10 geographic areas across the U.S.

Cool temperatures and precipitation are predicated across Montana today and Tuesday.

**DNRC Fire Situation**

**Eastern Land Office:** 8 county fires this past week. 4 BIA/BLM fires this past week.

**Southern Land Office:** 10 fires this past week on state/private land. 2 BIA fires this past week.

**Northeastern Land Office:** Minimal fire activity. The Payola Fire, near Payola Reservoir, NW of Winnett in Petroleum County; started Saturday; 1,500 acres; resources on scene.

**Central Land Office:** 4 direct protection fires this past week, all were kept small. DNRC assisted federal partners on the Dawson Fire (13 acres). Shellrock Fire is moving into patrol status.

**Northwestern Land Office:** 2 direct protection fires this past week (1 human-caused, 1 lightning).

**Southwestern Land Office:** 1 direct protection fire and 1 mutual aid fire this past week.

**Other Large Fire Incidents**

Howe Ridge Fire (Glacier NP) – northwest of Lake McDonald in Glacier NP, MT. 12,420 acres, 12% contained; 138 personnel currently assigned to the fire. Type 1 Incident Management Team is in place (IC Pierson transitioning with IC Goicoechea). Team is also managing the Whale Butte; Boundary; Paola Ridge, and Coal Ridge Fires. Minimal fire behavior burning in timber and dense regeneration. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6135/> for more information.

Whale Butte Fire (Flathead NF) – 45 miles north of Kalispell, MT. 489 acres; 32% contained; 88 personnel. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Road, area, and trail closures in effect. Evacuations have been lifted. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6149/> for more information.

Boundary Fire (Glacier NP) - 42 miles NE of Whitefish, MT. 2,125 acres; 0% contained; 6 personnel assigned to the fire. Burning in timber with moderate fire behavior, single tree torching, backing, and

creeping. Structures threatened and trail closures in effect. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6170/> for more information.

Paola Ridge Fire (Flathead NF) – 3 miles northwest of Essex, MT. 712 acres; 7% contained; 109 personnel currently assigned to the fire. Minimal fire behavior, burning in timber and brush. Numerous structures and railroad infrastructure threatened. Road, area, and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire on Sunday. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6140/> for more information.

Coal Ridge Fire (Flathead NF) – 28 miles N of Kalispell, MT. 280 acres; 2% contained; 39 personnel currently assigned to the fire. Minimal fire behavior. Area, road, and trail closures in place. Numerous structures threatened. Precipitation occurred over the fire on Sunday. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/article/6142/46251/> for more information.

Gold Hill Fire (Kootenai NF) – 13 miles north of Libby, MT. 3,178 acres; 1% contained; 396 personnel currently assigned to the fire. A Type 3 Incident Management Team is in place. Active fire behavior with backing, creeping, and running. Structures threatened. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6143/> for more information.

Sterling Complex (Tenmile and Juliet Fires) (Kootenai NF) – 18 miles S of Eureka, MT. 1,405 acres; 65% contained; 228 personnel assigned. Type 2 Incident Management Team in place (IC, Bird). Burning in timber and brush with minimal fire behavior. Numerous structures, energy and communications infrastructure threatened. Road, area, and trail closures in effect. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6137/> for more information.

Davis Fire (Kootenai NF) – 10 miles NW of Yaak, MT. 6,597 acres; 16% contained; 210 personnel currently assigned to the fire. Type 2 Incident Management Team (IC Almas transitioning with IC Thompson). Burning in timber with minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Road, area, and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire on Sunday. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6074/> for more information.

Monument Fire and Wigwam Fire (Beaverhead/Deerlodge NF) – located south and west of Ennis, MT. Monument fire: 6,614 acres; 56% contained; 137 personnel assigned. Wigwam fire: 4,087 acres; 100% contained, 33 personnel assigned. Type 3 Incident Command Team will transfer management of fire back to local unit today. Minimal fire behavior. Energy infrastructure and sage-grouse habitat threatened. Road, trail, and area closures in effect. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6122/> for more information.

Goldstone Fire (Beaverhead/Deerlodge NF) - 12 miles south of Jackson, MT. 9,337 acres; 7% contained; 309 personnel assigned to the fire. Burning in closed timber and short grass. Minimal fire behavior. Road, area, and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire on Sunday. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6091/> for more information.

Beaver Creek Fire (Beaverhead/Deer Lodge NF) – 18 miles northwest of Wisdom, MT. 2,074 acres; 24% contained; 51 personnel currently assigned to the fire. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Road, area, and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire on Sunday. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6147/> for more information.

Bacon Rind Fire (Custer/Gallatin NF) - 20 miles south of Big Sky; 2,060 acres; 16% contained; 80 personnel assigned to the fire. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5992/> for more information.

Moose Creek (Helena NF) – 250 acres; 0% contained; 15 personnel assigned to the fire. 43 miles west of Choteau, MT. Burning in timber with moderate fire behavior, isolated torching, backing, and smoldering. Structures threatened. Trail closures in effect.

Brownstone (Flathead NF, Bob Marshall Wilderness) – 2,342 acres, 0% contained, 8 personnel on the fire. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6103/> for more information.

<b>Fire Information</b>		
<b>Fire Protection Bureau</b>	Crystal Beckman	406-542-4251
<b>Links to Other Information</b>		
<b>Montana Fires on Inciweb</b>	<a href="http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/state/30/">http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/state/30/</a>	
<b>Wildfire Smoke Update</b>	<a href="http://svc.mt.gov/deq/todaysair/smokereport/mostrecentupdate.aspx">http://svc.mt.gov/deq/todaysair/smokereport/mostrecentupdate.aspx</a>	
<b>Fire Weather Watches/Warnings</b>	<a href="http://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/weather/weather.htm">http://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/weather/weather.htm</a>	
<b>Current Fire Restrictions in Montana</b>	<p>Current restrictions are listed below. With cooler temperatures and precipitation restrictions are more than likely going to change this week. Visit <a href="https://firerestrictions.us/mt/">https://firerestrictions.us/mt/</a> for the most up-to-date restriction status.</p> <p><b>STAGE 1</b>            Blaine            Glacier            Hill            Choteau            Phillips            Fergus            Petroleum            Valley            Roosevelt            Sheridan            Yellowstone            Musselshell            Stillwater            Jefferson            Treasure            Powell            Silver Bow            Deer Lodge            Granite</p> <p><b>STAGE 2</b>            Missoula            Ravalli            Mineral            Lake            Sanders            Lincoln            Flathead</p>	
<b>Montana Weather</b>	<a href="http://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/weather/weather.htm">http://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/weather/weather.htm</a>	
<b>National Fire News</b>	<a href="http://www.nifc.gov/fireInfo/nfn.htm">http://www.nifc.gov/fireInfo/nfn.htm</a>	
<b>National Situation Report</b>	<a href="http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf">http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf</a>	

