



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

Montana Wildfire Situation Report

Friday, August 11, 2017

Preparedness Level:	Northern Rockies	5	National	5
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The Northern Rockies Area has 18 active fires totaling 370,805 acres. 81 crews, 195 engines, and 43 helicopters are assigned to the area totaling 3,902 personnel. In the last 24 hours, the area has had 12 new fires (1 BIA, 7 FS, 2 NPS, 2 MT DNRC) totaling 2,842 acres. 5 of these fires are categorized as new large incidents (1 in MT and 4 in ID). Currently 3 Type I Incident Management Teams (IMT); 6 Type II IMT and 1 Area Command Team are committed to this geographic area.

High risk for widely scattered mix wet/dry storms for Montana today and tomorrow. High risk for gusty westerly winds across the state on Sunday. Lightning and predicted winds will keep fire managers on heightened alert over the weekend.

DNRC Fire Situation

Fire Costs: 27.5M is the approximate State fire costs-to-date. MT DNRC is currently involved in cost-share plans for the Liberty and Sliderock Fires. The Sliderock Fire a part of the Sapphire Complex.

Eastern Land Office: 11 new fires since 8/7. 5 of the 11 fires were over 100 acres. Carter County saw the most lightning fire activity this week.

Southern Land Office: Minimal fire activity, fires were all kept small, all human-caused, no lightning.

Northeastern Land Office: Minimal fire activity.

Central Land Office: No fires since 8/7.

Northwestern Land Office: 7 new fires since 8/7, a mix of lightning and human-caused, fire danger is extreme.

Southwestern Land Office: 2 human-caused fires since 8/7, lightning has occurred the last two evenings, smoke is limiting visibility for detection flights to look for new starts, fire danger is extreme.

Other Large Fire Incidents

SW MT Area Command Team (Stutler) is assigned to Southwest Montana Zone Support to assist in managing the Burdette, Liberty, Lolo Peak, Rice Ridge, Sapphire Complex, and Sunrise fires.

RICE RIDGE, Lolo NF. 10,194 acres, 10% contained, 543 personnel, started 7/24, 7.4M cost-to-date. Monitor and confine management strategy. Lightning caused, located 1.4 miles N of Seeley Lake, MT. Burning in timber. Type 2 Incident Management Team (Goldman, IC). Active fire behavior with single tree torching, short-range spotting, and short crown runs. Structures threatened. Trail and area closure in effect. For more information visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5414/>.

SUNRISE, Lolo NF. 16,200 acres, 20% contained, 525 personnel, started 7/16, 15.2M cost-to-date. Full suppression management strategy. Lightning caused, located 11 miles E of Superior, MT. Type 2

Incident Management Team (Turman, IC). IMT also managing the Burdette fire. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with short range spotting, single-tree torching and flanking. Structures threatened. Evacuations, road, trail and area closures in effect. For more information visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5379/>.

BURDETTE, Lolo NF. 648 acres, 70% contained, 6 personnel, started 7/16, 1.2M cost-to-date. Full suppression management strategy. Lightning caused, located 13 miles SE of Tarkio, MT. Type 1 Incident Management Team (Turman, IC). IMT also managing the Sunrise fire. Burning in timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Potential to threaten residences in Petty Creek and Fish Creek areas. For more information visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5378/>.

GIBRALTER RIDGE, Kootenai NF. 1,493 acres, 0% contained, 276 personnel, started 8/7, 375K cost-to-date. Full Suppression management strategy. Lightning caused, located 7 miles E of Eureka, MT. Type 2 Incident Management Team (Connell, IC). Timber (grass and understory). Extreme fire behavior with torching, wind driven runs, and long range spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Area closures, evacuations and pre-evacuations in effect. For more information visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5474/>.

SAPPHIRE COMPLEX, Lolo NF. 23,282 acres, 32% contained, 628 personnel, started 7/24, 15.4M cost-to-date. Full suppression and point zone protection management strategy. Lightning caused, located 15 miles SE of Clinton, MT. Type 2 Incident Management Team (Thompson, IC). Complex includes previously reported: Sliderock, Goat Creek and Little Hogback fires. Burning in timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing and group torching. Structures threatened. Evacuations, road, trail and area closures in effect. For more information visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5364/>.

LOLO PEAK, Lolo NF. 7,177 acres, 0% contained, 383 personnel, started 7/15, 12M cost-to-date. Full suppression management strategy. Lightning caused, located 10 miles SW of Lolo, MT. Type 1 Incident Management Team (Livingston, IC). Burning in timber. Active fire behavior with torching, spotting, and short crown runs. An evacuation warning remains in place for residences S of Hwy 12 from Fort Fizzle west including the Elk Meadows Rd. and Mill Creek areas. Road, trail and area closures in effect. For more information visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5375/>.

MEYERS, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF. 12,895 acres, 5% contained, 513 personnel, started 7/14, 4.4M cost-to-date. Full suppression management strategy. Lightning caused, located 25 miles SW of Philipsburg, MT. Type 2 Incident Management Team (Almas, IC). Burning in timber. Moderate fire behavior with torching and creeping. Structures threatened. Evacuations and area closure in effect. For more information visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5397/>.

LIBERTY, Flathead Agency, BIA. 3,888 acres, 90% completed indirect line. 288 personnel, started 7/15, cost-to-date 5.9M. Confine and monitor management strategy in wilderness area. Lightning caused, located 17 miles SE of Arlee, MT. Type 1 Incident Management Team (McGowan, IC). Burning in timber. Minimal fire behavior with backing, flanking, and creeping. Evacuation warnings remain in effect for Finley Creek and Placid Lake areas. Cultural resources threatened. Road, trail and area closures in effect. For more information visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5437/>.

PARK CREEK, Helena-Lewis and Clark NF. 5,189 acres, 40% contained, 208 personnel, started 7/14, 7.2M cost-to-date. Full suppression, point zone protection and confine management strategy. Lightning caused, located 2 miles N of Lincoln, MT. Wildland Fire Management Team (Zombro, IC). Burning in timber. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Area closure in effect. For more information visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5367/>.

ARRASTRA CREEK, Helena-Lewis and Clark NF. 4,002 acres, 30% contained, 94 personnel, started 7/18, 2.7M cost-to-date. Full suppression, point zone protection and confine management strategy. Lightning caused, located 6 miles NW of Lincoln, MT. Wildland Fire Management Team (Zombro, IC)

is also managing the Park Creek fire. Burning in timber. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Area closure in effect. For more information visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5390/>.

Fire Information

Fire & Aviation Management Bureau	Crystal Beckman	406-542-4251
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Links to Other Information

Montana Fires on Inciweb	http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/state/27/
Wildfire Smoke Update	http://svc.mt.gov/deq/todaysair/smokereport/mostrecentupdate.aspx
Fire Weather Watches/Warnings	http://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/weather/weather.htm
Montana Weather	http://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/weather/weather.htm
Northern Rockies 7 Day Fire Potential	http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/forecast/#/outlooks?state=sideBySide&gacclid=5
National Fire News	http://www.nifc.gov/fireInfo/nfn.htm
National Situation Report	http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf
Current Fire Restrictions in Montana	For information on current fire restrictions, please visit https://firerestrictions.us/ . Reference map below, Stage I Fire Restrictions in yellow, Stage II Fire Restrictions in orange.

