



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

Montana Wildfire Situation Report Monday, September 19, 2022		
<b>Preparedness Level</b>	Northern Rockies: 3	National: 3
<p>The geographic area saw significantly less fire activity this week, but several teams remain committed throughout the nation.</p>		
<p>Relative humidity increased this past weekend, which along with arrival of cooler seasonal temperatures, has lowered fire danger to low or moderate throughout most of the state. Today (Monday) will be the highest fire potential day for Montana due to dry, breezy conditions. Temperatures, however, will continue to drop beginning Tuesday and wetting rainfall is predicted to hit most of Montana by Thursday.</p>		
DNRC Fire Situation		
<p><b>Eastern Land Office:</b> Counties responded to four fires throughout the land office this past week. All fires remained very small, and the area has discontinued their weekly restrictions call.</p>		
<p><b>Southern Land Office:</b> The land office had 18 fires that received county response this week. Musselshell, Treasure, Yellowstone, and Big Horn Counties remain in Stage 1 fire restrictions.</p>		
<p><b>Northeastern Land Office:</b> Counties responded to 12 fires this past week. Eagle Creek remains the largest but is projected to be fully contained soon. Wheatland and Philips Counties, along with Rocky Boy Reservation, are still in Stage 1 fire restrictions.</p>		
<p><b>Central Land Office:</b> The land office had four direct protection and three county-response fires this past week. There have been no changes to fire restrictions, with Cascade, Liberty, and Toole Counties in Stage 1 restrictions.</p>		
<p><b>Northwestern Land Office:</b> The land office had only one direct protection fire this week, which was human-caused. Sanders and Lake County are in Stage 1 fire restrictions.</p>		
<p><b>Southwestern Land Office:</b> There were four direct protection fires last week, two of which were human-caused. The area will likely move to moderate fire danger this week, but Ravalli County remains in Stage 2 fire restrictions.</p>		
Other Large Fire Incidents in Montana		
<p><b>Bull Gin Complex (3 fires),</b> Kootenai NF, USFS. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (NR Team 7) to CIMT (NR Team 2) will occur today. Burning two miles northeast of Heron, MT, in timber and brush.</p>		

Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and single tree torching. Residences threatened. Area, road, and trail closures in effect. 3,824 acres, 6% contained.

**Blodgett Lake**, Bitterroot NF, USFS. IMT 1 (NR Team 1). IMT is also managing the Mill Lake, Big Creek, and Bear Creek fires. Burning eleven miles west of Hamilton, MT, in timber and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping, and smoldering. Road and trail closures in effect. 2,2290 acres, 20% contained.

**Mill Lake**, Bitterroot NF, USFS. Burning seven miles west of Pinesdale, MT in timber, brush, and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping, and smoldering. Road and trail closures in effect. 908 acres, 35% contained.

**Big Creek**, Bitterroot NF, USFS. Burning twelve miles southwest of Stevensville, MT, in timber, closed timber litter and brush. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping, and smoldering. Trail closures in effect. 153 acres, 50% contained.

**Bear Creek**, Bitterroot NF, USFS. Burning sixteen miles southwest of Stevensville, MT, in timber and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping, and smoldering. 232 acres, 50% contained.

**Eagle Creek**, Hill County. Burning thirty miles south of Havre, MT, in timber, brush, and short grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. 7,225 acres, 95% contained.

**Lemonade**, Flathead NF, USFS. Burning twenty-one miles west of Kalispell, MT, in closed timber litter, timber, and light slash. Minimal fire behavior with creeping, smoldering, and backing. Trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday. 668 acres, 90% contained.

### DNRC Fire Information

<b>Fire Protection Bureau</b>	Julia Berkey	406-361-5947
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### Links to Other Information

<b>Montana Fires on InciWeb</b>	<a href="http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/state/30/">http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/state/30/</a>
<b>Montana fires, restrictions, and preparedness</b>	<a href="https://www.mtfireinfo.org/">https://www.mtfireinfo.org/</a>
<b>Wildfire Smoke Update</b>	<a href="https://deq.mt.gov/air/Programs/smokeforecasts">https://deq.mt.gov/air/Programs/smokeforecasts</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>	Sanders, Lake, Cascade, Phillips, Wheatland, Yellowstone, Musselshell, Treasure, and Bighorn Counties, as well as the Rocky Boy and Northern Cheyenne Reservations, are in Stage 1 Fire Restrictions. Ravalli County is in Stage 2 Fire Restrictions. Several counties also have local burn bans in place. <a href="https://www.mtfireinfo.org/pages/restrictions">https://www.mtfireinfo.org/pages/restrictions</a>
<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>Northern Rockies 7 Day Fire Potential</b>	<a href="http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/forecast/#/outlooks?state=sideBySide&amp;gacclid=5">http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/forecast/#/outlooks?state=sideBySide&amp;gacclid=5</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>