



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 1, 2022

Preparedness Level	Northern Rockies: 2	National: 3
<p>The Northern Rockies Geographic Area experienced moderate fire activity last week. The area is currently evaluating a move to Preparedness Level 3 due to the upwards trend in fire danger. Nationally, crew availability remains decent but is quickly tightening up.</p>		
<p>Hot, dry conditions are expected to continue throughout the state of Montana this week, with Red Flag warnings issued for early in the week. Forecasted wind across the state is resulting in critical fire conditions. There is a chance for some wetting rainfall in southwest Montana for Tuesday.</p>		

DNRC Fire Situation

Eastern Land Office: There were 21 new grass fires last week, all of which remained small. The forecast for this week is hot weather with wind. ERCs will be in the 90th percentile

Southern Land Office: The land office reported 54 new fires last week. Yellowstone and Musselshell County are in Stage 1 restrictions, with Treasure and Big Horn planning to enter Stage 1 restrictions later this week.

Northeastern Land Office: There were 15 new fires last week, the largest of which was the Hop Fire, which now sits at ~2,300 acres. Nearly all fires have been human caused due to haying activities.

Central Land Office: There were 6 new fires across the land office this week. ERC values are now exceeding the 90th percentile across most of the land office.

Northwestern Land Office: The land office reported 10 new fires last week, all human caused. There is a fire weather watch in effect across the land office for Monday and Tuesday of this week.

Southwestern Land Office: The area had 14 new fire last week, the majority of which were human caused.

Other Large Fire Incidents in Montana

Elmo, Flathead Agency, BIA. Managed by a Type 2 Incident Management Team (NR Team 7). The fire is burning eight miles west of Elmo, MT in grass and timber. Active fire behavior with group torching, flanking, and backing. Residences and energy infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area, and road closures in effect.

Hog Trough, Bitterroot National Forest, USFS. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (NR Team 5) is mobilizing. The fire is burning seventeen miles southeast of Hamilton, MT, in timber and short grass. Moderate fire behavior with uphill runs, torching, and spotting. Area and trail closures in effect.

Hop Creek, Golden Valley County. Burning forty miles northwest of Billings, MT, in timber. Active fire behavior with spotting, wind-driven runs, and isolated torching. Residences threatened.

DNRC Fire Information		
Fire Protection Bureau	Julia Berkey	406-361-5947
DNRC Comms Director	Cassie Wandersee	406-437-4562
Links to Other Information		
Montana Fires on InciWeb	http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/state/30/	
Montana fires, restrictions, and preparedness	https://www.mtfireinfo.org/	
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	
Current Fire Restrictions in Montana	Yellowstone and Musselshell Counties are in Stage 1 Fire Restrictions. Several counties also have local burn bans in place. https://www.mtfireinfo.org/pages/restrictions	
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&gaccId=5	
National Fire News	http://www.nifc.gov/fireInfo/nfn.htm	
National Situation Report	http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitrept.pdf	