



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 16, 2024		
Preparedness Level	Northern Rockies: 2	National: 5
<p>This week, it is predicted to stay dry across most of eastern Montana Monday and Tuesday. After that, cooler temperatures and higher humidities are forecast across most of the state, and Wednesday is predicted to be windy. Overall, below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation is forecast for the next week.</p>		
<p>The Northern Rockies Geographic Area received 103 fires last week (Sunday 9/8– Saturday 9/14) for 1,104 acres burned. During the same period, Montana received 74 fires for 28,493 acres. To date, there have been 1,976 fires in the state for a total of 358,917 acres burned.</p>		
DNRC Fire Situation		
<p>Eastern Land Office: Last week was relatively quiet for the land office, with the notable exception of the Short Draw Fire, which started in Wyoming but moved into Montana on Wednesday. The County Assist Team is currently managing the fire, which is estimated at 35,222 acres.</p>		
<p>Southern Land Office: The area received 26 fires last week, most of which were lightning caused. The largest grew to 188 acres. All are now in mop up and patrol status.</p>		
<p>Northeastern Land Office: The land office had a quiet week, with only a couple fires. The Homestead Fire, which grew to 959 acres, was the largest.</p>		
<p>Central Land Office: The land office reported steady fire activity last week, with 10 fires across the area. The largest fire grew to 65 acres in Broadwater County.</p>		
<p>Northwestern Land Office: Very quiet week for the land office last week, with only 1 direct protection fire. The area has dropped to preparedness level 1 and there is another ½ inch of rain in the forecast.</p>		
<p>Southwestern Land Office: The land office reported two starts last week, both of which were easily controlled. Widespread rain and cooler temperatures are forecast for the week.</p>		
Other Large Fire Incidents in Montana		
<p>Short Draw, Powder River County (MT) and Campbell County (WY). 35,222 acres, 40% contained. Thirty miles south of Broadus, MT. Active fire behavior with isolated torching, creeping and smoldering. Residences, energy infrastructure and sage-grouse habitat threatened.</p>		

Sharrott Creek, Bitterroot NF, USFS. CIMT (NR Team 5). 3,204 acres, 83% contained. IMT is also managing the Johnson, Daly and Railroad fires. Burning four miles west of Stevensville, MT in timber and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Johnson, Bitterroot NF, USFS. 6,687 acres, 46% contained. Burning thirteen miles east of Sula, MT in timber and light slash. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Daly, Bitterroot NF, USFS. 6,813 acres, 25% contained. Burning fifteen miles southeast of Hamilton, MT in timber and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Railroad, Bitterroot NF, USFS. 1,006 acres, 35% contained. Burning twenty-six miles southeast of Hamilton, MT in timber and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Marsh Creek, Helena NF, USFS. 151 acres, 0% contained. Burning eleven miles southeast of Lincoln, MT in timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and creeping. Trail closures in effect.

Grouse, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS. 6,009 acres, 50% contained. Burning Ten miles southwest of Wise River, MT. Timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened. Trail closures in effect.

McDermott, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS. 427 acres, 0% contained. Burning twelve miles northwest of Stone, MT in timber, grass and closed timber litter. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

DNRC Fire Information

Forestry Division	Anna Lau	406-499-3616
Fire Protection Bureau	Julia Berkey	406-361-5947

Statewide Duty Officers

ELO	Randy Sanders	406-489-1418
SLO	Mike Boettcher	406-210-8137
NELO	Keith Woods	406-544-5649
CLO	Bob Culbreth	406-465-6753
NWLO	Jesse Best	406-212-4822
SWLO	Dan Miller	406-250-4762
FPB	Cory Calnan	406-788-7718
GIS	Nick Youngstrom	Contact FPB DO
Information	Anna Lau	406-499-3616

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	https://gis.mtdeq.us/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=000f42b119c44c7f9c3b4336470c721e
Fire Weather Watches/Warnings	http://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/weather/weather.htm
Current Fire Restrictions in Montana	https://www.mtfireinfo.org/pages/restrictions
Montana Weather	http://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/predictive/weather/weather.htm
Northern Rockies 7 Day Fire Potential	https://fsapps.nwcg.gov/psp/npsg/forecast/#/outlooks?state=forecast&gacclid=5
National Fire News	http://www.nifc.gov/fireInfo/nfn.htm
National Situation Report	http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf