



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 9, 2024

<b>Preparedness Level</b>	Northern Rockies: 3	National: 5
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The week will start off with hot and dry conditions across the state, with [Red Flag warnings](#) on the Rocky Mountain Front and South Central Montana. Winds are forecast to increase east of the Northern Rockies on Wednesday. Also starting Wednesday, the western half of the state is predicted to receive precipitation and cooler temperatures. This moderating weather will likely not reach eastern Montana until early next week.

The Northern Rockies Geographic Area received 116 fires last week (Sunday 9/1 – Saturday 9/7) for 869 acres burned. During the same period, Montana received 73 fires for 718 acres. To date, there have been 1,892 fires in the state for a total of 323,439 acres burned.

**DNRC Fire Situation**

**Eastern Land Office:** The area reported three fires last week. Weather will remain hot today and warm until Thursday, with a chance for thunderstorms today and tomorrow.

**Southern Land Office:** The land office had 15 local government and 11 federal fires last week. There is a red flag warning for all 7 counties within SLO today. Cooler, wetter conditions are not predicted to arrive until the weekend.

**Northeastern Land Office:** Fire activity was light last week. Both Wheatland and Golden Valley Counties are in a Red Flag warning today.

**Central Land Office:** The land office reported light fire activity last week, with Red Flag warnings in Gallatin, Park, Toole, and Liberty Counties today.

**Northwestern Land Office:** The land office had 3 human-caused fires last week, all of which are now in patrol status. The front coming through later this week should bring rain and cooler temperatures Wednesday through the weekend.

**Southwestern Land Office:** The area reported light fire activity last week. One fire of note is the Long Tom Fire on the Anaconda Unit, which is currently at 78 acres in dense lodgepole pine forest.

**Other Large Fire Incidents in Montana**

**Sharrott Creek,** Bitterroot NF, USFS. 3,018 acres, 36% contained. Transfer of command from CIMT (NR Team 3) to CIMT (NR Team 5) will occur today. IMT is also managing the Johnson fire. Burning four miles west of Stevensville, MT in timber and closed timber litter. Moderate fire behavior with

backing, group torching and short-range spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Johnson**, Bitterroot NF, USFS. 6,301 acres, 25% contained. Burning thirteen miles east of Sula, MT in timber and light slash. Active fire behavior with group torching and spotting. Numerous structures threatened. Area, road, and trail closures in effect. Last narrative report unless significant activity occurs.

**McElwain**, Southwestern Land Office, Montana DNRC. 116 acres, 75% contained. Burning twenty-five miles southeast of Seeley Lake, MT in timber, brush and grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Residences threatened.

**Mile Marker 104**, Flathead Agency, BIA. 467 acres, 80% contained. Burning six miles west of Dixon, MT in grass, brush, and timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering.

**Marsh Creek**, Helena NF, USFS. 130 acres, 0% contained. Burning eleven miles southeast of Lincoln, MT in timber, litter, and brush. Active fire behavior with wind-driven runs, group torching and flanking. Trail closures in effect.

**Grouse**, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS. 5,743 acres, 22% contained. Burning ten miles southwest of Wise River, MT in timber. No new information.

#### DNRC Fire Information

<b>Forestry Division</b>	Anna Lau	406-499-3616
<b>Fire Protection Bureau</b>	Julia Berkey	406-361-5947

#### Statewide Duty Officers

<b>ELO</b>	Randy Sanders	406-489-1418
<b>SLO</b>	Mike Boettcher/Dustin Sciacca	406-591-5489
<b>NELO</b>	Dustin Lenz	406-839-5202
<b>CLO</b>	John Huston	406-431-2562
<b>NWLO</b>	Greg Poncin	406-250-4439
<b>SWLO</b>	Karl Nikoleyczik	406240-4973
<b>FPB</b>	Julia Berkey	406-361-5947
<b>GIS</b>	Liz Hertz	Contact FPB DO
<b>Information</b>	Julia Berkey	406-361-5947

#### 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://gis.mtdeq.us/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=000f42b119c44c7f9c3b4336470c721e">https://gis.mtdeq.us/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=000f42b119c44c7f9c3b4336470c721e</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>	<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="https://fsapps.nwcg.gov/psp/npsg/forecast/#/outlooks?state=forecast&amp;gaccl d=5">https://fsapps.nwcg.gov/psp/npsg/forecast/#/outlooks?state=forecast&amp;gaccl d=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>