

FACT SHEET



Wall Fire Monday, June 20, 2016 8:00 PM

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What: Wildland Fire
Location: 25 miles southwest of Ashland, MT
Started: Saturday, June 18, 2016
Current Size: 1,475 acres
Containment: 70%
Cause: Lightning
Total Personnel: 127
Ownership: Private and Bureau of Land Management land
Jurisdiction: Rosebud County and Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Current Situation: The fire continued to actively burn within the fire's perimeter today with no size increase. A mapping flight was conducted mid-morning to get accurate acreage of the fire. Crews and heavy equipment were successful in completing line construction to increase containment. The helicopter assisted in cooling interior heat with bucket drops.

Values at Risk:

- Private property infrastructure
- General sage grouse habitat
- Livestock forage

Objectives:

- Firefighter, aviation and public safety
- Protect infrastructure
- Minimize impact to sage grouse habitat

Summary: A lookout tower reported the fire on Saturday at 12:48pm. Firefighters from Rosebud County, Powder River County, BLM and US Forest Service (USFS) were immediately dispatched for initial attack. The fire started on private land and moved to BLM. Steep terrain and thick Juniper trees accelerated fire growth on Saturday and Sunday. The vegetation is primarily Juniper with mixed Ponderosa, grass, and brush.

The Department of Natural Resource and Conservation County Assist Team (DNRC), Incident Commander, David Hamilton assumed command and management of this fire today at 6:00 a.m. The team, in partnership with federal and local agencies, is implementing a full suppression strategy to put the fire out as safely and quickly as possible.

Current resources on the fire: 7 engines, 1 water tender, 2 dozers, 2 Hotshot crews (IHC), 1 Type II Initial Attack crew (T2IA), 6 Smokejumpers, 2 helicopter and 33 overhead. These resources are from the following agencies: USFS Yellowstone Smokejumpers; USFS Helena IHC; USFS Lolo IHC; USFS Idaho Panhandle T2IA; Rosebud County; Red Lodge Fire; Columbus Fire; DNRC; and BLM.

Special Concerns: Vegetation in the area is quickly getting drier due to hot, dry windy weather. Be careful when working and recreating outside to avoid starting a wildfire. One less spark, one less wildfire!

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