



AUGUST 12, 2021 - FACT SHEET Superior National Forest Fires

UPDATE: The Superior National Forest has taken over management of all fires and will be providing updates on the fire situation and the closure area every other day or as needed. The Forest continues to have outside resources assisting in suppression and patrol and monitoring.

Superior National Forest Fire Information: Please call the local ranger district office or online at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/> or the Superior NF website: www.fs.usda.gov/superior

Description: Near-critical fire weather conditions are expected today for portions of Minnesota due to low humidity and gusty northwest winds. A high-pressure system will develop over the area through the weekend, keeping skies mostly clear. The moisture deficit will continue to worsen as significant rainfall is not predicted in Northern Minnesota. The next chance for precipitation is predicted for Tuesday evening into Wednesday.

Bunggee Fire: The Bunggee Fire was first detected on July 30th and is located within the current closure area. The 3.5-acre fire has control line around it and very minimal fire activity has been observed the last few days. The fire is being patrolled and monitored.

Fourtown Lake Fire: The Fourtown Lake Fire was first detected on July 25th and is located within the BWCAW approximately 12 miles north of Ely. The current size is 265-acres and continues to hold within containment lines. Six firefighters are staffing the fire and continue to mop up and secure containment lines.

Sundial South Fire: The Sundial South Fire was detected on July 21, and is a quarter-acre in size. It is located within the existing closure area and is particularly inaccessible to fire crews due to the remote location and hazardous fuels. Fire activity remains minimal, but will be continuously monitored by air.

Moose Camp Fire: The Moose Camp Fire was detected on August 4th and is located approximately 16 miles NNE of Ely. It is a quarter-acre, 100 percent contained and is in patrol and monitor status. This will be the last report of the Moose Camp Fire.

Nina Creek Fire: The Nina Creek Fire was detected on August 4th and is located approximately 12 miles SE of Ely. It is 2.7-acres and is 100 percent contained. A hose line remains around the perimeter and the fire will be placed in patrol and monitor status. This will be the last report of the Nina Creek Fire.

Ole Fire: The Ole Fire was detected later in the day on August 10th and is located west of the North Arm of Burntside Lake. The fire is at .2 acres and has containment line around the perimeter. Firefighters will continue to secure these lines and begin mop up operations.

Pelt Lake Fire: The Pelt Lake Fire was detected on the afternoon of August 10th and is located approximately 2 mile NW of Isabella Lake. It is estimated to be less than an acre in size. Firefighters were able to access the fire yesterday to begin establishing control lines and mopping up. The fire is 20 percent contained.

Canada Fires: Quetico Provincial Park continues to manage several fires burning north of the international border from the BWCAW. Three of these fires have potential to spread across the border into areas near Crooked and Iron Lakes. Due to the last few days of drying, fire activity has been observed to be active. The Forest continues to conduct daily monitoring flights over the fires and coordinate with counterparts in Ontario. For more information on the fires in Ontario and for an interactive fire map visit: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/forest-fires>.

Air Quality: Air quality is expected to be good across much of the state today. For more information on current air quality conditions in your area and to sign up for daily air quality forecasts and alert notifications by email, text message, phone, or the Minnesota Air mobile app, visit MPCA's Air Quality Index webpage. You can find additional information about health and indoor and outdoor air quality at the agency's Air Quality and Health webpage.

Closures: Closures remain in place on the Kawishiwi and LaCroix Ranger Districts until at least August 16. Closures are adjacent to the Canadian border in BWCAW. For details, visit the Superior National Forest webpage at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/superior/alerts-notices>. With continued fires, the closure allows firefighters to take immediate action on existing fires or any new starts.

Fire Restrictions: Due to continued long-term drought conditions and limited fire-fighting resources, the Superior National Forest is not allowing campfires within the Forest boundary on National Forest lands, including the BWCAW. Propane devices with an on/off switch are permitted, including lanterns, stoves, and firepits. Campfires are NOT allowed at any BWCAW campsites, backcountry campsites, or rustic campgrounds, even indesignated fire rings or grates. Please see [Fire Restrictions Order](#) and our [Campfire Restrictions FAQ](#) for more information.

The MN DNR activated additional burning restrictions for areas within state jurisdiction in Cook and Lake counties, beginning 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, August 10. Under the additional restrictions, all campfires and recreational fires are banned and the use of welding devices and other torches is prohibited when in proximity to combustible vegetation (unless special permission is granted). While the DNR's restrictions do not control tribal lands, the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa has restricted burning on its lands. Under these additional restrictions, the campfire and recreational fire ban in Cook and Lake counties now includes all public and private land. In the backcountry, and at campsites, only gas or propane camp stoves are allowed. Gas and charcoal grills are allowed at occupied homes, cabins and resorts. Charcoal and gas fires must be in devices designed for grilling. Please see [MN DNR Wildland Fire Information](#) for details.

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