

FACT SHEET

Condon Mountain Fire

Swan Lake Ranger District

September 22, 2012 8:30 a.m.



Information Officers: Katie Knotek, Colter Pence & Ted Pettis
Fire Information Line: (406) 754-0127 Condon Work Center (ICP)

Office hours: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

New Email: condonmountainfire@gmail.com

Incident: The Condon Mountain Fire was started by lightning on 7/28.

Location: Approximately 4 miles northeast of Condon, MT.

Agency Jurisdiction: USDA Forest Service, Flathead National Forest; Montana DNRC, Swan River State Forest

Cooperating Agencies: Swan Valley Rural Fire Department, Lake County Sheriff's Office, Missoula County Sheriff's Office, Missoula County Emergency Services, Lake County Emergency Services, Swan Ecosystem Center

Incident Commander: Shawn Pearson, Northern Rockies Type II Incident Management Team (IMT). The Incident Command Post (ICP) is located at the Condon Work Center.

Current Size: 3,500 acres

Containment: 40%

Structures Threatened: 12

Status: The fire is burning in heavy timber with dead, standing whitebark pine, Douglas-fir, and subalpine fir. The fire area consists of steep, hazardous terrain with high potential for rollout, spotting, and snags. The fire is located just west of the Bob Marshall Wilderness and is visible from Highway 83. There are private lands in the valley bottom with structures within 1 ½ miles of the current fire perimeter. All residents in the Condon area are under a "Ready" Stage 1 Alert of the potential for future evacuation. However, there are no evacuations in effect at this time.

Yesterday's Activities: The fire was active yesterday with short crown runs and group tree torching. Spotting continued ¼ mile outside the fire perimeter. The fire moved lower into the Cooney Creek drainage. Line construction continued on the road system below the fire, along Forest Road 9762 to Cooney Mountain Lookout. Hand crews completed some surface burning to slow the fire front backing downhill towards the road system on the west side of the fire.

Trail #192, East Foothill Trail, was officially closed to the public for safety purposes, and the Condon Airport was closed to all non-fire aircraft until further notice.

Current Resources: **Five** 20-person crews, **six** engines, **eight** pieces of heavy equipment, **three** water tenders, and **four** helicopters. Total personnel: **174**.

Today's Activities: Temperatures today will be in the mid-80's, relative humidity in the teens, and light winds out of the east switching to south/southwest. The fire is expected to move downhill into the Cooney Creek drainage on the southern edge and downhill toward the Swan River Valley on the western edge. Aerial resources with water drops will be used for a direct attack on the fire. Line reinforcement along the road system below the fire will continue.

Restrictions/Closures: Trail #29, the Smith-Little Salmon Trail, remains closed. A temporary flight restriction (TFR) is in effect surrounding the Condon Mountain Fire area.

For further information, visit: www.inciweb.org; Select "Condon Mountain"