

# FACT SHEET

## Condon Mountain Fire

Swan Lake Ranger District

October 1, 2012 7:45 a.m.



Information Officers: Katie Knotek & Ted Pettis  
Fire Information Line: (406) 754-0127 w/answering machine  
Office hours: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
**New Email: [condonmountainfire@gmail.com](mailto: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:** USFS, Flathead National Forest; Montana DNRC, Swan River State Forest

**Cooperating Agencies:** Swan Valley Rural Fire Dept., Lake County Sheriff's Office, Missoula County Sheriff's Office, Missoula County OES, Lake County OES, 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:** 5,260 acres

**Containment:** 45%

**Structures Threatened:** 12

**Status:** The fire is burning in heavy timber with numerous, standing snags. The area consists of steep, hazardous terrain with high potential for rollout and spotting. The fire is located just west of the Bob Marshall Wilderness and is visible from Highway 83. There are structures in the Swan Valley between McKay and Cooney Creeks within 1½ miles of the current fire perimeter. Structure protection has been established. All residents east of Highway 83 in the Condon area are under a "Ready" Stage 1 Alert for the *potential* of a future evacuation.

**However, there are no evacuations in effect at this time.** An air quality monitor has been set up at Condon Work Center. To monitor the local air quality, go to <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/cgi-bin/smoke.pl> and select "Smoke 24."

**Yesterday's Activities:** Minimal fire activity yesterday allowed crews to hold and improve on the hand line constructed mid-slope along the fire's edge between Smith Creek and Cooney Creek. A small burnout was completed on the south side of Smith Creek between an indirect line and the fire perimeter to aid in containment efforts. Mop up work was continued between Condon and Smith Creeks to extinguish all fire within 200 feet of the perimeter. Helicopters were again used to drop water on the south end of the fire north of Cooney Creek. Rehabilitation and erosion control work was finished on the north end in Dog Creek.

**Current Resources:** **Three** 20-person crews, **one** 10-person crew, **three** engines, **one** piece of heavy equipment, **two** water tenders, and **four** helicopters. Total personnel: **160**.

**Today's Activities:** A "Red Flag Warning" has been issued for the Flathead/ Glacier Park area for west winds 15-25 mph with gusts to 35 and ridge top gusts to 45 mph. Crews will continue mop up activities between Condon and Smith Creeks. Crews will work to hold and improve the established fire line between Smith and Cooney Creeks. Crews and aircraft will be on alert for these extreme weather conditions and the potential for increased fire activity.

**Restrictions/Closures:** There is an Area Closure around the fire for public safety, which includes closure of Trail #29 (Smith-Little Salmon), Trail #192 (East Foothill) and the Cooney Lookout. Trails #415 and #42 remain open. A temporary flight restriction (TFR) is in effect surrounding the fire area and the Condon Airstrip is closed to all non-fire aircraft.

**For further information,** visit: [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org); Select "Condon Mountain"