

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Glacier National Park
International Peace Park
Biosphere Reserve
World Heritage Site

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Glacier National Park

Reynolds Creek Fire Media Release

July 31, 2015 8:00 a.m.

Inciweb: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov>
Fire Information Hotline: (406)732-7791

Facts at a Glance

Size: 3,170 acres **Date Started:** 07/21/2015 **Percent Containment:** 63%
Personnel Assigned: 604, including eight Interagency Hotshot crews, eight 20-person hand crews, and other various personnel
Location: Approximately 6 miles east of Logan Pass, 4 miles west of St. Mary Visitor Center
Equipment Assigned: 11 engines, 7 helicopters and multiple shared resources
Cooperating Agencies: Resources from Flathead National Forest, Glacier County, East Glacier, Babb, St. Mary, Cutbank, Evergreen, and West Valley Fire Departments, Blackfeet Fire Management, Montana Department of Natural Resources, Flathead County, as well as Glacier County and Montana Disaster & Emergency Services are assisting Glacier National Park.
Cause: Under investigation
Structures Lost: 2

Yesterday's actions: Fire behavior was active due to higher temperatures and lower relative humidity. Afternoon winds produced spotting up to six-tenths of a mile outside fire lines. All spots were contained using helicopter support. Many green islands of vegetation within the fire perimeter were burning by late afternoon. A burnout operation on the cliff-face behind Rising Sun Campground continued into the evening.

Today's actions: A red flag warning for the fire area has been issued due to high winds and lower relative humidity. Green islands of unburned fuel still have the potential to be active today. Crews are working to secure containment line along the fire's north east corner. Mop-up operations and response to increases in fire activity near constructed fire lines will continue. The burnout operation above Rising Sun Campground continues today.

The Going-to-the-Sun Road remains closed from the St. Mary Campground to Logan Pass on the east side of the park. At this time, the road is hazardous for public to travel through the burn area. The fire is still burning in close proximity to the road. Unburned trees near the road remain and have the potential to burn. Additional fire weakened trees were identified adjacent to the road that will need to be removed. This road provides the only access to the fire area. Firefighters need unrestricted access in the event of a fire or medical emergency.

Closures: The Rising Sun Motor Inn and the Rising Sun Campground remain closed. The Going-to-the-Sun Road remains closed from the St. Mary Campground to Logan Pass on the east side of the park.

Openings: Going-to-the-Sun Road is open to Logan Pass from the west side of the park. Visitors should continue to expect delays and congestion along the road. The Red Eagle drainage is open for hiking access to Red Eagle Lake, Triple Divide, and the beaver ponds. The Sperry Trail is open from Lake McDonald Lodge to Gunsight Pass. Any travel beyond Gunsight Pass is closed due to fire activity. The Lake Ellen Wilson backcountry site is open.

Glacier National Park remains open, and excellent recreation opportunities abound. Information on current park activities can be found at: www.nps.gov/glac, [Facebook.com/GlacierNPS](https://www.facebook.com/GlacierNPS), twitter.com/glaciernps, or [flickr.com/photos/glaciernps](https://www.flickr.com/photos/glaciernps). Additionally, current conditions can be viewed on park webcams at: <http://www.nps.gov/glac/learn/photosmultimedia/webcams.htm>.

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