

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Glacier National Park
International Peace Park
Biosphere Reserve
World Heritage Site

P. O. Box 128
West Glacier, MT 59936
www.nps.gov/glac
406-888-7800 phone
[facebook.com/GlacierNPS](https://www.facebook.com/GlacierNPS)
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Glacier National Park

Reynolds Creek Fire Media Release

August 4, 2015 8:00 a.m.

Inciweb: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov>

Information line: (406) 888-7800

Facts at a Glance

Size: 3,913 acres **Date Started:** 07/21/2015 **Percent Containment:** 67%

Personnel Assigned: 440, including eight Interagency Hotshot crews, five 20-person hand crews, and other various personnel

Location: Approximately six miles east of Logan Pass, four miles west of St. Mary Visitor Center

Equipment Assigned: seven engines, six 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 **Cost:** \$8.3 Million

There will be a community meeting tonight August 4th at 6:00 p.m. in the Great Bear Conference Room at the St. Mary Lodge. The new Incident Commander, Chris Young, will be there to provide an update on his plans for managing the fire.

Today's actions: Residents smelling or seeing the smoke that is coming into our area are assuming it's from the Reynolds Creek Fire, but a large percentage of it is coming from fires in Washington and British Columbia. In addition to smoke remaining in the area today, cooler temperatures are expected, with the cloud cover decreasing throughout the day.

Heavy smoke in the region has reduced activity over the majority of the fire area. A slow burn of ground fuels in the unburned islands of trees, well inside the perimeter, was experienced in the Rose Creek and Two Dog drainages. These pockets of unburned fuel will continue to burn out as fuels continue to dry out and become receptive to heat. Crews will continue to reinforce containment lines and mop up along the fire's edge. Firefighters on the fire's southwestern edge in the St Mary River area are beginning to remove equipment and hose.

The Going-to-the-Sun Road corridor remains a hazardous area. The fire is still burning near the road. Unburned trees by the road remain and have the potential to burn.

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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