

# FACT SHEET

## *Northeast Kootenai Complex*

August 23, 2015 9:30 a.m.



**Information Officers:** Katie Knotek, Tom Rhode & Meg Nemitz

**Fire Information Line:** (406) 882-8308

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

**Email:** [northeastkootenaicomplex@gmail.com](mailto:northeastkootenaicomplex@gmail.com)

**INCIDENT:** Northeast Kootenai Complex (includes Barnaby, Marston, Sunday Fires)

**AGENCY JURISDICTION:** USDA Forest Service, Kootenai & Flathead National Forests; Montana DNRC, Libby and Stillwater Units.

**INCIDENT COMMANDER:** Shawn Pearson, Northern Rockies Type II Incident Management Team (IMT). The Incident Command Post (ICP) is located at the Murphy Lake Ranger Station.

**WEATHER & FIRE BEHAVIOR:** Warm, sunny and dry day with light winds will increase fire activity in the afternoon today. A warm and dry trend will continue through the week; a Fire Weather Watch has been issued for Monday.

### **MARSTON FIRE:**

The Marston Fire is estimated at 3,200 acres with 5% contained and is located about three miles southeast of Fortine, MT. Dozer and hand line have been completed along the fire's western edge and north to Deep Creek drainage. Crews are now working on opening roads for access to the fire's northeast side near the mouth of Deep Creek. Dozer line has been completed from Laughing Water Creek to Sink Creek and crews will work on laying hose to supply water to the line. Indirect line is being scouted for the east side of the fire adjacent to the Stillwater State Forest. Helicopters will drop water on the southeast and northwest corners of the fire again. The fire may become more active throughout the week with warmer temps and low humidity, residents are asked to stay informed of changing fire conditions. The population protection plan is still in place for residents living near Laughing Water, Deep and Grave Creeks. This determines when evacuations would take place in the vicinity of the Marston Fire. A copy of the plan can be found on the Northeast Kootenai Complex Inciweb page (link listed below). *No evacuations are currently in effect.*

### **SUNDAY FIRE:**

The Sunday Fire located about four miles southeast of Stryker, MT, is at 60 acres with 90% contained. Fireline has been constructed around the fire perimeter, and crews are working on mopping up and cooling hot spots within the fire's perimeter. The population protection plan is still in place and determines when evacuations would take place in the vicinity of the Sunday Fire. A copy this plan can be found on the Northeast Kootenai Complex Inciweb page (link listed below). *No evacuations are currently in effect.*

### **BARNABY FIRE:**

The fire is located about four miles northeast of Eureka in very steep and rugged terrain. Fire activity has been minimal in the last two days with the cooler weather and has stayed at about 40 acres with 0% containment. A Type 1 helicopter will be available to drop water as needed.

**PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES:** 320 personnel including 1 Type 1 crew, 5 Type 2 crews, 16 engines, Helicopters: 2 Type 1, 1 Type 2, and 1 Type 3, 6 dozers, 8 water tenders, 4 skidgins, and .

**SPECIAL MESSAGES/CLOSURES:** There is an area closure for the Barnaby Fire as well as for the Marston Fire. See Inciweb for maps and explanations of these closures. **There will be a public meeting in Trego at the Civic Center on Monday August 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM.**

Residents in Lincoln County interested in signing up for reverse 911 or "**Code Red**" can visit this website for further information: <http://www.lincolncountymt.us/>

**For more information on the fires,** visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/>; Select "Northeast Kootenai Complex"