

Fact Sheet
8:00 AM

**Gibraltar Ridge Fire
and
Caribou Fire
September 9, 2017**



Fire Information Line: 406-272-2082

Location: Gibraltar Ridge Fire located seven miles east of Eureka, MT **Current Size: 7,719 Acres**

Cause: Lightning **Containment: 27%** **Personnel: 69**

Email: GibraltarRidgeFire2017@gmail.com **Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5474/>**

Location: Caribou Fire located 21 miles northwest of Eureka, MT **Current Size: 21,566 Total Acres**

Cause: Lightning **Containment: 25%** **Personnel: 257** **United States: 19,198** **Canada: 2,368**

Email: CaribouFire2017@gmail.com **Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5539/>**

Critical Fire Weather Conditions Through Saturday Evening

Weather: Red Flag Warning is in effect until Saturday evening due to forecasted strong southwest winds from 15 to 25 mph with gusts of 30 to 40 mph creating extreme fire danger.

Caribou Fire: Yesterday, Firefighters continued mop-up operations along the perimeter of West Kootenai, working deeper inside the fire. Crews and heavy equipment improved the fireline along the north flank of Marias Mountain into the South Fork of Young Creek. Crews continued fireline construction on the west end near Blacktail Creek. The fire was active along the north flank of Marias Mountain into the South Fork of Young Creek.

Today, Firefighters and equipment operators will continue mop-up operations in the West Kootenai area. Heavy equipment and firefighters will continue building fireline along the north flank of Marias Mountain. Indirect line construction continues in the Blacktail Creek area. Fire managers are locating fireline in the Lime Creek area.

Two public meetings will be held today, Saturday, September 9th. One will be held at the Eureka High School and at the same time a second meeting will be held at 3984 West Kootenai Road. Meetings are from 7 to 8 pm. The purpose of the meetings are to update community residents of current fire behavior and status of the evacuation notice.

Caribou Evacuations: Evacuation Order is still in effect for West Kootenai area north of Tooley Lake. A Pre-evacuation Warning is in effect for the West Kootenai area south of Tooley Lake and the Basin Creek area.

Caribou Fire Closures: A Closure Order remains in place for the Caribou Fire. Closure Orders and maps under the "Closures" tab on Inciweb.

Gibraltar Ridge Fire: Moderate fire behavior continues. The fire backed down to Williams Creek area. Firefighters continue to keep the fire north and west of Grave Creek Road (FSR 114). Structure protection, including sprinklers and hose lays, are in place in case they are needed.

Gibraltar Ridge Evacuations: A Pre-Evacuation Warning remains in effect for the Sherman Creek, Griffith Creek, Therriault Pass Road, Stevens Creek, Glen Lake and Sinclair Creek (south/east of West Road) areas.

Gibraltar Ridge Closures: Grave Creek Road and the Ten Lakes Recreation area are closed above the Grave Creek/Foothills Road junction. Closure Orders and maps under the "Closures" tab on Inciweb.

Resources Threatened for both fires: Private property, structures, historic resources, recreational resources, timber, terrestrial and aquatic habitats.

Fire Restrictions: Lincoln County and the Kootenai National Forest are in Stage II Fire Restrictions due to Extreme Fire Danger. **For information on fire restrictions, please visit firerestrictions.us**