Fact Sheet 8:00 AM

Caribou Fire Gibralter Ridge Fire Weasel Fire September 10, 2017



Fire Information Line: 406-272-2082

*Indicates Approximate Acreage

Location: Caribou Fire located 21 miles northwest of Eureka, MT

Cause: Lightning

Containment: 25% Personnel: 373

Current Size: *21,566 Total Acres

United States: *19,198 Canada: *2,368

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

Location: Gibralter Ridge Fire located seven miles east of Eureka, MT Current Size: *8,115 Acres

Cause: Lightning Containment: 27% Personnel: 65

Email: GibralterRidgeFire2017@gmail.com Inciweb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5474/

Location: Weasel Fire located 17 miles northeast of Eureka, MT

Current Size: *316 Acres

Cause: Lightning Containment: 0% Personnel: 0

Mandatory Evacuation Lifted for West Kootenai, Gibralter Ridge Fire Grows

Caribou Fire: Yesterday, Firefighters continued mop-up operations along the perimeter of West Kootenai. Crews and heavy equipment built fireline along the north flank of Marias Mountain into the South Fork of Young Creek and Blacktail Creek area. The fire was active in the Lime Creek drainage. Strong winds tested the firelines on the fire. Lines held with just a few small slop-over burns that were contained.

Today, Firefighters and equipment operators will continue building fireline along the north flank of Marias Mountain and Blacktail Creek area. Firefighters are working to build fireline in the Lime Creek area.

Caribou Evacuations: Evacuation Order has been lifted at 10 am on Sunday, September 10th for West Kootenai area north of Tooley Lake. However, the area remains in a Pre-evacuation Warning. For areas south of Tooley Lake, and Basin Creek, Pre-Evacuation Warning remains in effect.

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

Gibralter Ridge Fire: The fire backed down to Williams Creek and spotted over to the east side of Krag Peak. Fire managers will evaluate fire activity in the area and use helicopters or aircraft to check fire growth.

Gibralter 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.

Gibralter 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.

Weasel Fire: Management of the Weasel Fire was assumed by Pearson's Type 2 IMT at 6:00 PM, September 9, 2017. Fire Management will evaluate and develop a plan for the fire today. Currently, no private property or structures are threatened.

Weather: Southwest winds are expected to continue with dryer air and lower humidity. Smoky conditions will clear somewhat, bringing increased temperatures.

Resources Threatened: 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 <u>firerestrictions.us</u>**