

Fact Sheet
8:00 AM

**Gibraltar Ridge Fire
and
Caribou Fire
September 7, 2017**



Fire Information Line: 406-272-2082

Location: Gibraltar Ridge Fire located seven miles east of Eureka, MT **Current Size: 7,291 Acres**

Cause: Lightning **Containment: 27%** **Personnel: 72**

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

Location: Caribou Fire located 21 miles northwest of Eureka, MT **Current Size: 20,631 Total Acres**

Cause: Lightning **Containment: 10%** **Personnel: 218** **United States: 18,316 Canada: 2,313**

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

Smoky Conditions Limit Fire Growth; Containment Lines Progress Steadily.

Weather: Heavy smoke and a high pressure system will continue to moderate fire behavior. There is a chance of scattered showers and thunderstorms Friday to Saturday night.

Caribou Fire: Yesterday, fire crews and heavy equipment improved the fireline to the west and north, while joining lines to the south. Overall, there are 4 miles of fireline on the east side of the fire up to the Canadian border. Crews are working on clearing line on the west end near Blacktail Creek to the north. Previous days' cooler temperatures and lighter winds reduced fire activity.

Today, structure protection crews will continue to improve the fireline southeast and north of West Kootenai, and improve fireline south of the community. Firefighters are constructing direct fireline west of Road 303 toward Marias Mountain. Additional ground and air resources have been assigned to the fire, but aircraft will not be able to fly until smoke clears and visibility improves.

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

Gibraltar Ridge Fire: Yesterday's inversion and cooler weather caused the fire to be less active. As the fire slowly backs down William's Creek, crews will continually evaluate its growth. Crews continue to patrol and mop-up around Graves Creek. Structure crews have placed sprinklers and continue to patrol in the pre-evacuation area.

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**