

Fact Sheet
8:00 AM

Caribou Fire
Gibraltar Ridge Fire
Weasel Fire
September 13, 2017



Fire Information Line: 406-272-2082

* Estimated Acres, No Infrared for 9/13

Location: Caribou Fire located 21 miles northwest of Eureka, MT **Current Size: *23,187 Total Acres**
Cause: Lightning **Containment: 30% Personnel: 395 United States: *20,610 Canada: *2,577**
Email: CaribouFire2017@gmail.com **Inciweb:** <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5539/>

Location: Gibraltar Ridge Fire located seven miles east of Eureka, MT **Current Size: *10,443 Acres**
Cause: Lightning **Containment: 27% Personnel: 41**
Email: GibraltarRidgeFire2017@gmail.com **Inciweb:** <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5474/>

Location: Weasel Fire located 17 miles northeast of Eureka, MT **Current Size: *869 Acres**
Cause: Lightning **Containment: 0% Personnel: 0**

Active Fire Today, Cooler Temperatures Coming

Caribou Fire: On the east and south east side of the fire, hand crews continue to hold and improve lines as well as mop-up. Firefighters and equipment operators will build direct and indirect fireline along the north side of Marias Mountain from Young Creek west to Lime Creek. Fire progression on the southwest side of the fire has been slowed by existing timber harvest units and existing roads in the area. Heavy equipment completed the contingency fireline in the Blacktail Creek area north to the Canadian border. Helicopters and Canadian CL-415 water scoopers will be used again today to help slow fire growth. A scooper plane holds approximately 1,600 gallons of water. Yesterday, four scooper planes dropped a total of approximately 140,800 gallons of water on active fire areas.

Caribou Evacuations: All areas in West Kootenai remain in Pre-Evacuation Warning. This includes West Kootenai North and South of Tooley Lake, Spring Creek, Dodge Creek, and Basin Creek.

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: The fire continues to burn in Williams Creek. Hand crews are brushing along Grave Creek Road. Crews will remain in the area to patrol and mop-up hot spots. The fire moved two miles down the Whale Creek drainage yesterday on the Flathead National Forest (FNF). FNF fire crews wrapped the Ninko cabin and are providing structure protection.

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.

Weasel Fire: The fire is actively burning through thick Subalpine fir and is spreading northeast to Tuchuck Mountain. Timber and heavy brush are contributing to the fire spread flanking both sides of Weasel Lake. The Weasel Cabin and dock are wrapped with fire resistant material. No private property or structures are threatened.

Weather: Cooler temperatures are coming with a cold front coming from the north. Cooler air will decrease temperatures to the 60s in the mountains and relative humidity will increase to 25-30%. Winds will be erratic with the potential for gusts up to 25 mph on the ridgetops and 15 mph on the slope and valley bottom.

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 firerestrictions.us