



Rattlesnake Fire

Saturday, September 3, 2016, 7:00pm

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Website: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5006/>

Start Date: Thursday, September 1, 2016

Type of Incident: Wildfire **Size:** 582 acres

Cause: Lightning **Containment:** 40%

Protection: MT Dept. Natural Resources and Conservation

Land Ownership: Private

Location: 5 miles NW of Canyon Creek, Lewis & Clark County, MT



Resources Assigned

Engines: 18

Air Tankers: Available

Smokejumper: 5

Hand Crews: 4

Helicopters: 4

Overhead Personnel: 36

Bulldozers: 2

Water Tenders: 7

Total Personnel: 218

Current Situation

Today's Activities: Moderate fire behavior was observed today with creeping and smoldering. Firefighters kept busy gridding for hot spots and cold trailing to ensure all spot fires were found. Containment has increased to 40 percent and the fire acreage has decreased due to better mapping during which fire officials measured the fire's exact perimeter.

Weather: This evening, there is a chance of thunderstorms with the potential for strong and gusty winds. Cool temperatures and rain are predicted on Sunday.

Closures: Rattlesnake Gulch Road is closed. Montana Fish, Wildlife, & Parks has issued closures for the following areas: Canyon Creek Wildlife Management Area and the Sieben Block Management Area.

Overview: The predicted rain over the fire area is expected to assist with the fire-fighting efforts but it isn't expected to extinguish the fire entirely. Crews expect to continue mop-up activities for at least the next two days.

The Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC) County Assist Team, Incident Commander David Hamilton, assumed command of fire Friday morning. The team is implementing a full suppression strategy to put the fire out as safely and quickly as possible.

Safety Message: Please use extra caution on Lincoln Road (Hwy 279) as fire traffic will be entering and exiting the area. It is important not to stop or block roadways.

Cooperating Agencies

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Fish Wildlife & Parks (FWP), Canyon Creek Volunteer Fire Department, Lewis and Clark County Commissioners & Sheriff's Office.