



# Kootenai River Complex

## Wildfire Fact Sheet

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2022 at 9:00 AM

**Red Flag Warning – Critical Fire  
Weather Conditions Expected Today**



Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8378/>

Email: [2022.kootenai@firenet.gov](mailto:2022.kootenai@firenet.gov)

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/USFSIPNF>

NEW Fire Information Phone:

Boundary County Emergency Line: (208) 696-2626

**208-202-5021**

**Incident Command:** Type 2 Northern Rockies Incident Management Team 4, Rick Connell, I.C.

**Estimated Size:** 13,704 acres

**Containment:** 0%

**Personnel:** 207

**Current Status:** Heavy equipment crews worked to construct fireline west of the Westside Road, through some areas of slash from previous harvests. Crews worked in tandem with an excavator to reduce vegetation along roads and dozer lines and started to set up hose lines along some sections. Engine crews completed setting up pumps, hose, and sprinklers and testing the structure protection equipment along the Westside Road east of the Trout, Russell Mountain, and Scotch Creek Fires. Fire activity was calm yesterday with the most active fire north of Scotch Creek and south of the Russell Mountain Fires. Fire activity on the Katka Fire was creeping and slow, concentrated in areas of the large down trees on the north side. The overnight infrared detection flight mapped an increase in size of 1,217 acres on the Complex.

**Planned Actions:** Engine crews will set up pump kits, hose, and sprinklers for structure protection east of the Eneas Peak Fire and test the water delivery systems already set up at structures along the Westside Road. Heavy equipment crews will continue working on constructing fireline utilizing old roads west of the Westside Road. A night shift of three engine crews will patrol roads near the fire area and monitor fire activity and structure protection equipment. Helicopters will deliver buckets of water along the east side on the fires if wind and smoke conditions allow. Firefighters will scout for indirect fireline locations on the Katka Fire as a part of the process of developing a strategy that provides for firefighters to safely engage at the appropriate time.

**Weather:** A Red Flag Warning is in effect from 8am to 10pm on Wednesday. Temperatures will range from 74 to 90 degrees F and Relative Humidity levels as low as 18 to 28 percent. Winds will be out of the southwest at 6 to 17 mph with gusts up to 35 mph in the afternoon.

**Closures:** Due to active fires and fire suppression activities, the Westside Road is restricted to residents-only. Additionally, the following National Forest Trails are now closed: Ball Creek Road (FR 432), Trout Creek Road (FR 634), Russell Mountain (No. 12), Russell Ridge (No. 92), Ball and Pyramid Lakes (No. 43), Pyramid Pass (No. 13), Pyramid Peak (No. 7), Fisher Peak (No. 27), Trout Lake (No. 41), McGinty Ridge (No. 143), Clifty Mountain and Clifty/Burrow (No. 182), Myrtle Peak Trail (No. 286), and Burton Peak Trail (No. 9).

**Evacuations:** There are **NO Evacuations** currently in place. **However, those living on the Westside Road closest to Ball Creek, Burton Creek, and Clark Creek have been placed in the SET fire evacuation status.** SET is the stage of readiness before an actual evacuation takes place. If not voluntarily evacuating already, residents in this stage are advised to at least gather their evacuation supplies or pre-load them into their vehicles to enable a quick exit if evacuation is triggered. Residents of Boundary County, Idaho can visit <https://www.nixle.com> or text their home zip code to 888777 to sign up for emergency alerts. To learn more about **READY SET GO**, visit <https://bit.ly/3wi0jMu>.

**Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR):** There is a TFR in place for air space over the Katka Fire (2-1234) and the Scotch Creek, Russell Mountain, Eneas Peak, and Trout Fires (2-1621) for aviation safety. Remember that temporary flight restrictions also apply to unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) or drones. **If you fly, we can't!**