



CENTRAL MONTANA T3
INCIDENT COMMANDER: SHANE MARTIN
September 18, 2022



Trail Ridge Fire

Fire Summary

Approx. 5 miles SE Sula, MT
Approx. 11 miles NW of Big Hole National
Battlefield

Size: 17,084 acres **Completion:** 47%
Personnel: 158

CURRENT STATUS

Yesterday warm and sunny weather returned to the area causing an increase in visible smoke along the East Fork Road. The moisture received over the fire area during the last week has continued to help moderate fire behavior, but with the increased sun exposure and wind yesterday the fire did experience some movement within the 4B Creek Drainage. The fire perimeter is still within the indirect containment lines constructed and crews are monitoring fire behavior at this time. An IR flight was not available last night to record the change in acreage, but Fire Managers estimate about a 30 acre increase in this area. Fire Managers have been prepared for this uptick in activity and have plans and resources (Hotshot Crew, Helicopters, heavy equipment, etc.) in place in anticipation of increased fire behavior.

Crews continue to work along Meadow Creek Road on indirect line and road prep near the 2017 Myers Fire Burn Area. On Forest Service Road 106 crews continue with suppression repair work, crews are removing branches and small trees that were cut and moved when the fuel break was created using a chipper and other methods to disperse material and reduce the impacts of suppression work.

FIRE WEATHER AND BEHAVIOR

Today there is only a slight chance for isolated rain showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Tomorrow there is a greater chance for precipitation, accompanied by high winds with gusts up to 25 mph. The chance for moisture will greatly increase later Wednesday or Thursday.

TRAIL RIDGE CLOSURES AND SPECIAL MESSAGES

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

See the Fire Area Closure Order Map for Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

Bitterroot National Forest

See the Fire Area Closure Order Map for the Bitterroot National Forest
Stage 2 Fire Restrictions are in effect on all Bitterroot National Forest Lands

Specific closure information can be found at: <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/8365/>