



**NORTHERN ROCKIES  
INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM 2**

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**Inciweb:** Bull Gin Complex,  
<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8381>

**Facebook:** @kootenainf,  
<https://www.facebook.com/kootenainf>

INCIDENT STATISTICS

**Size:** 4,266 acres  
**Completion:** 36 %  
**Start Date:** September 2, 2022  
**Cause:** Lightning  
**Location:** 2 miles NE of  
Heron, MT  
**Personnel:** 80  
**Resources:** 2 Crews, 5  
Engines, 8 Heavy  
Equipment

#SuppressionRepair



# Bull Gin Complex Daily Update

Sunday, September 25, 2022



| <u>Bull Gin Complex</u>   | <u>Acres</u> |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Government Fire</b>    | 2,773        |
| <b>Billiard Fire</b>      | 1,203        |
| <b>Isabella Lake Fire</b> | 290          |

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Firefighters continue mopping up, suppression repair, and completion efforts on the Bull Gin Complex. Though completion did not increase today, fire activity remains minimal due to favorable weather and firefighting efforts. The fire within the Complex will continue to creep and smolder slowly toward fire lines, as expected, and firefighters will patrol where appropriate. The Walness Fire, which began four days ago, is out. Temporary flight restrictions are lifted as of today, September 25.

**Government Fire:** Firefighters continue mopping up along the southern boundary of the fire, especially near private residences and near C Spur Road. The excavator will be advancing road repair work south, along the fire's western boundary. A grader will also assist with road repair work.

**Billiard Fire:** Crews focus on suppression repair work and mop-up. Road repair advances along both Billiard Cabin and Fatman Roads. Excavators will continue road repairs over the next week. Sawyers are felling hazard trees while crews clear debris from culverts. Firefighters will remove the structure wrap from the Star Peak Lookout in the fire area today.

**Isabella Lake Fire:** The Grangeville Helitack Crew removed the structure wrap from the bridge in the fire area yesterday.

**WEATHER:** Temperatures will slowly rise through the beginning of this week as a high-pressure system returns to the area. Today's temperature will be slightly warmer than yesterday, with highs from 67-75 degrees. Temperatures will reach the low-80s by mid-week. Humidity will decrease but will remain at or above 40 percent, which will likely have minimal effect on fire behavior.

**PRE-EVACUATION UPDATES:** As of 6:00 AM yesterday, September 24, 2022, all pre-evacuation zones for the Bull Gin Complex/Government Fire are lifted. The residents along Government Mountain Road and Timber Ridge Road are no longer in pre-evacuation status.

**CLOSURES:** All closure orders remain in effect until further notice. Government Mountain Road and Rock Creek Road remain closed to the public. The Noxon Refuse Site remains open during regular hours. Area, road, and trail closures are in place for the Government, Billiard, and Isabella Lake Fires to provide for public safety and firefighting operations. See Inciweb for maps and closure descriptions:  
<https://bit.ly/KootenaiNFClosures>.

**WHAT IS SUPPRESSION REPAIR?** Wildfire suppression repair is a set of different actions (immediately taken) to repair damages caused by firefighting activities. It can include repairing culverts, restoring roads and trails to their pre-fire condition, reducing the appearance of dozer and hand line, and other similar activities. The goal of suppression repair is to immediately minimize the potential of soil erosion and other negative impacts resulting from fire suppression activities.