

Bovee Fire Update

Tuesday, October 4, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.



Rocky Mountain Complex Incident Management Team 1
Dan Dallas, Incident Commander

Information Phone: 402-302-0368 (public) 402-937-9090 (media only)
Email: 2022.bovee@firenet.gov
Information Staffing Hours: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Special Note: Rocky Mountain Complex Incident Management (CIM) Team 1 assumed management responsibility for the Bovee Fire at 6:00 pm last evening. The team is one of three CIM teams in the Rocky Mountain geographic area. The team thanks the Type 3 Incident Management Team, local firefighters and enforcement resources who have been fighting the fire since it began. Their excellent work saved many structures and set us up to continue successfully suppressing the fire.

Current Situation: The Bovee Fire is approximately 15,000 acres and is 30% contained. Yesterday, cooler, less windy weather and light rainfall aided firefighters in their suppression efforts. Dozers, engines, and hand crews made good progress on fireline construction on the northern and eastern flanks of the fire, and work began on the western side. This work will continue today, and a night shift will also be in place this evening to patrol and ensure that structures and firelines are secure

On large, complex fires, supervisors divide the fire perimeter into Divisions to provide for better management and safer operations. These daily updates will describe the fire’s activities and our suppression actions within these Divisions, which are shown on the accompanying fire maps. Note that Division letters don’t always run sequentially so that new Divisions may be added if the fire grows.

Division A: This western side of the fire south of Highway 2 is mainly on National Forest lands. Today, two hotshot crews, dozers, and engines will continue building direct fireline as they work towards containment of this portion of the fire perimeter. They will utilize meadows and other natural fire breaks to the extent possible to speed their progress.

Division Z: The eastern side of the fire south of Highway 2 is also primarily on National Forest lands. Dozers will continue to build direct fireline working south from the river break where conditions allow. Engines will be utilized as additional support.

Division L: This portion of the fire is north of Highway 2 in mostly grassland fuels. Volunteer Fire Departments have been working hard to contain this area. Today, the area is mostly in mop up and patrol status, but 5 engines will also work on areas of heat remaining in woody draws on the north end of the fire.

Weather, Fuels, and Fire Behavior:

This morning will be cool (~50F) with 90% humidity and scattered rain showers. As the day progresses, skies will clear, and temperatures will rise to the upper 60s. Winds will be from the NW at 10-15 mph. A warming trend will occur through mid-week, with cooler weather returning on Thursday. Fuels dampened by recent rain and high humidity will be unable to sustain fire spread. Fire behavior today will be limited to creeping and smoldering.

Evacuations, Closures, and Fire Restrictions:

All evacuations on the Bovee Fire have been lifted.
Highway 2 is open at the current time. Drive with caution, as there may be heavy fire traffic and smoke in the area.
An Area Closure encompassing the entire Bessy Ranger District is in place on the Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands. Fire restrictions are also in place on various parts of the Forests and Grasslands. For additional information on both, visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/nebraska/alerts-notice>

Wildfires are a no-fly zone for unauthorized aircraft, including drones. **If you fly, we can’t.** For more information, visit <http://knowbeforeyoufly.org>.

Bovee Fire Statistics: Size: 15,000 acres Containment: 30% Total Personnel: 200+ Location: 3 mi. S. of Halsey, NE Reported: October 2, 2022 Cause: human caused, under investigation	For More Information: Information Phone: 402-302-0368 (public) Media only phone: 402-937-9090 Email: 2022.bovee@firenet.gov InciWeb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8437/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaForestsGrasslands/ Twitter: https://twitter.com/USFSNebraska?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor
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