



NORTHERN ROCKIES TEAM 9 INCIDENT COMMANDER: SHANE MARTIN

Bee Top Fire

Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Sandpoint Ranger District

Fire Information 1-208-953-7021 2023.beetop@firenet.gov
<https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idipf-bee-top-fire>
July 17, 2023

Location: 5 miles up Lightning Creek Road on Bee Top Mountain
Start Date: 7/1/23 **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 49 acres **Containment:** 78%.
Total Personnel: 123 **Engines:** 2 **Helicopters:** 3 **Hand Crews:** 3

Yesterday, crews continued to mop up and add “depth to the line”, meaning they were able to mop up further into the fire’s perimeter which allows a greater buffer to the fire’s edge. The Plumas Interagency Hotshots (IHC) were able to complete mop up and cold trailing on the Northern edge of the fireline and hiked out at the end of shift. Helicopters, throughout the day continued to backhaul gear, as well as carrying in blivets, food, and other essential supplies. They also continued to do bucket work throughout the heat of the day cooling the last few hotspots on the interior of the containment line.

Today, the Plumas IHC will be working on scattering slash and any other consumables that were created when the initial indirect line was constructed. The Klamath IHC and Mad River IHC will patrol the fireline’s edge and help with backhauling all unnecessary gear off the mountain. The crews will then hike off at end of shift today. Helicopters will start to backhaul the spike camp from the hillside, this includes things like drinking water, coolers, and other gear. In addition, they will be available for any other bucket work that may be required throughout the day. An Unmanned Aircraft System will fly first thing this morning to look for any residual pockets of heat within the fire’s perimeter.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

An elevated fire weather pattern develops today with the passage of a dry cold front by early morning. Westerly winds will steadily increase speed during the day with gusts to 35 mph on exposed ridges by afternoon. Swift winds from the southwest will be found in the valleys by late morning and through the afternoon. Expect significantly cooler temperatures while dry conditions return by afternoon. Winds should taper off tonight while seasonably cool weather and less wind is anticipated for Tuesday.

CLOSURES AND SPECIAL MESSAGES

There are currently no road or trail closures associated with the Bee Top Fire. However, the public is urged to use caution when recreating in the area and to check Inciweb regularly for the latest fire information.