



NORTHERN ROCKIES TEAM 9 INCIDENT COMMANDER: SHANE MARTIN

Bee Top Fire

Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Sandpoint Ranger District

Fire Information 1-208-557-8813 2023.beetop@firenet.gov
<https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idipf-bee-top-fire>
July 18, 2023

Location: 5 miles up Lightning Creek Road on Bee Top Mountain
Start Date: 7/1/23 **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 45 acres **Containment:** 88%.
Total Personnel: 87 **Helicopters:** 2 **Hand Crews:** 3

Today will be the last update on behalf of the Northern Rockies Incident Management Team 9. The Idaho Panhandle National Forests will publish further updates as any change in conditions warrant. On Wednesday, the Northern Rockies Incident Management Team 9 will transfer command back to the Sandpoint Ranger District at 0600.

Yesterday, crews were able to finish mop up, extinguishing burning material to add depth to the containment lines. Both the Klamath and Mad River Inter-Agency Hotshots (IHC) were able finish their section of containment line and backhauled the last bit of gear from Bee Top Mountain. Plumas (IHC) was able to complete their work scattering slash that was initially cut during the indirect line construction. Helicopters ran a cycle of water buckets on the fire and retrieved gear from the hillside.

Today, the Bee Top Fire will be put in "Patrol Status," meaning crews will check on the fire periodically throughout the day, but no more line construction is needed at this time. Interior smoke may be visible during the day as only the outer perimeter is out cold. This is due to the steep nature of the hillside and is commonplace on larger fires where it is impractical to cold trail 45 acres of ground.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday will bring lighter terrain driven winds. Another warming and drying trend will occur as well on starting on Wednesday. Additional increase in southwest wind is likely late in the week but likely not as strong as what occurred Monday.

CLOSURES AND SPECIAL MESSAGES

There are currently no road or trail closures associated with the Bee Top Fire.