



# Southwest Area Incident Management Team 1 Assumes Command of Ridge, Doris, and Tin Soldier Fires

August 25, 2023 Daily Update



Table 1

<u>Ridge Fire</u>	<u>Doris Point Fire</u>	<u>Tin Soldier Fires</u>
<b>Location:</b> 6 miles southeast of Hungry Horse	<b>Location:</b> 8 miles south of Hungry Horse	<b>Location:</b> 17 miles east of Swan Lake
<b>Size:</b> 3665 acres	<b>Size:</b> 1558 acres	<b>Size:</b> 8165 acres
<b>Percent Contained:</b> 76%	<b>Percent Completed:</b> 58%	<b>Percent Completed:</b> 20%
<b>Cause:</b> Lightning	<b>Cause:</b> Lightning	<b>Cause:</b> Lightning
<b>Start Date:</b> July 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 @ 3:45 PM	<b>Start Date:</b> July 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 @ 3:45 PM	<b>Start Date:</b> July 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 @ 3:45 PM
<b>Personnel Assigned:</b> 472	<b>Personnel Assigned:</b> 29	<b>Personnel Assigned:</b> 96

**Highlights:** A line of showers and potential thunderstorms with gusty, erratic winds is expected to pass through the fire area later this afternoon through this evening. A warming and drying trend is predicted through the weekend. Expect to see increased activity on all incidents as weather improves. Southwest Area Incident Management Team 1 will host a community meeting at the Glacier Bible Camp at 5:00 PM on Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.

### Operations:

**Ridge Fire:** Yesterday resources monitored fire areas they were able to access as some locations were still inaccessible due to the previous rain. Crews are preparing backhaul missions amidst unfavorable road conditions. Aviation resources conducted a backhaul mission to remove the smart tank – a large tank with a remotely activated pump system. Today crews will begin moving the mechanical logging equipment out of the area. Ground resources will also attempt to enter the aforementioned inaccessible locations to evaluate fire conditions and prepare for backhaul. The repair group will continue evaluating restoration needs.

**Doris Point Fire:** Crews monitored the southwest and east sides of the fire perimeter yesterday, as well as evaluated hazard trees along FS RD 895 and mitigated rolling debris around the campground. Today ground resources will continue with that mission with an emphasis on hazard tree removal projects.

**Tin Soldier Fire:** Yesterday crews put in good work containing the area of slop over along Meadow Creek and continued prep work along Meadow Creek towards Tin Creek, which included the use of mechanical thinning equipment. Today crews will further their missions from yesterday by monitoring the secured area of slop over for remaining hotspots, continue with mechanical thinning along Meadow Creek, and conduct prep work on FS RD 2628 towards FS RD 2828 near the Hyrdo Dam. Additionally, personnel engaged in point protection will maintain pump operations around structures.

### Weather and Fire Behavior:

A ridge of high pressure continues to build over the region. A line of showers and potential thunderstorms with gusty, erratic winds is expected to pass through the fire location late this afternoon and into this evening. After the passage of this feature, the ridge of high pressure with a warming and drying trend becomes the dominant feature.

Ridge, Doris Point, and Tin Soldier Fires: 81-86 degrees in the lower elevations and 71-76 degrees in the mid-slopes to ridges with minimum relative humidity at 27-32%. For the Ridge and Doris Point fires, winds will be southeast 5-10 mph with gusts to around 15 mph on the ridgetop. For the Tin Soldier fires, winds will be east-southeast 7-12 mph with gusts around 20 mph on the ridgetop.

### Ridge & Doris Fire Pre-Evacuation Notice:

The Flathead County Sheriff’s Office has rescinded the pre-evacuation notice from the east side of Spotted Bear Road to West Glacier. Visit the Flathead Sheriff’s office for details <https://www.facebook.com/flatheadsheriff>

### Fire Closure:

The Hungry Horse Reservoir is closed to all public access, including both the east and west side roads. The Forest Closure Order that includes the Heinrude Community remains in effect. As firefighting efforts continue on the Ridge Fire, the Tin Soldier, and other fires in the area, the closure is in place to provide for public and firefighter safety.

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/flathead/alerts-notices/?aid=82283>

### Additional Information:

Residents should stay alert for changing conditions and visit [ready.gov/wildfires](https://ready.gov/wildfires) for preparing for wildfires. Please refer to <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/mtfnf-tin-soldier-fire> for the Tin Soldier Complex Incident information.

Fire Information: 406-998-6074 (8:00 am to 7:00 pm)  
<https://www.facebook.com/ridge.fire.information>

Email: [2023.ridge@firenet.gov](mailto:2023.ridge@firenet.gov)  
<https://www.youtube.com/@2023ridgefire>