



Ridge Fire Incident Update Date: 08/11/23



<https://www.facebook.com/ridge.fire.information>



<https://www.youtube.com/@2023ridgefire>

Location: 6 miles southeast of Hungry Horse

Size: 2,940 acres

Percent Contained: 1 %

Cause: Lightning

Start Date: July 30, 2023, 3:45 PM

Fire Information: 406-998-6074

Hours: 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Email: 2023.ridge@firenet.gov

Incident Website: <http://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/mtfnf-ridge-fire>

Vegetation: Timber (Litter and Understory), Tall Grass, and Brush

Number of Personnel Assigned: 325

CURRENT SITUATION:

Yesterday, at the southern edge of the fire near Emery Creek crews mopped up along the roadway and continued direct handline up to the 1616 Road. Additional handline was constructed connecting the road system, and a proposed dozer line will continue to the 38 Road. At the northwest corner two Hotshot Crews scouted the area and developed a plan to go direct on the fire's edge and continue handline to the south. To the north resources scouted the area for potential opportunities, and on the eastern side aviation resources were utilized to keep the fire in its current footprint.

Today, crews will continue direct line from the south to the 590E Road and construct direct line on the west side of the fire to Desert Mountain Ridge. A plan will also be developed for the possibility of strategic low intensity firing operations where needed to safely connect area of the fireline. Structure protection assessments continue and are coordinated with the local agencies.

The areas where firefighters have been able work directly on the fire's edge have largely been the result of the fuel treatments strategically placed that have been effective in reducing the fire's intensity and spread.

WEATHER:

Today's weather is forecast to be mostly sunny with a maximum temperature of 80-85 degrees, minimum relative humidity 21-26% at lower elevations, and 20 ft winds west 6-12 mph with afternoon gusts around 16 mph.

CLOSURES:

The Hungry Horse Reservoir is closed to all public access, including both the east and west side roads. As firefighting efforts continue on the Ridge Fire, the Tin Soldier Complex, 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-notice/?aid=82283>

PRE-EVACUATION NOTICE:

The Flathead County Sheriff's Office has issued a pre-evacuation notice from the east side of Spotted Bear Road to West Glacier. <https://www.facebook.com/flatheadsheriff>

EMERGENCY SHELTER:

The American Red Cross has identified the following location as an emergency shelter for residents affected by the Ridge Fire. Those who plan to use the emergency shelter are asked to call 1-800-733-2767 prior to your arrival.

Columbia Falls Junior High School

1805 Talbot Road

Columbia Falls, MT

<https://www.facebook.com/FlatheadOES>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Residents should stay alert for changing conditions and visit ready.gov/wildfires for preparing for wildfires. Please refer to <http://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/mtfnf-tin-soldier-complex> for the Tin Soldier Complex incident information.