



Fry Fire Fact Sheet

Date: May 16, 2024 3:00PM Update

Fire Information:

- Phone: 218-248-7240
- On inciweb at <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/mnsuf-fry-fire>
- The Superior National Forest website: www.fs.usda.gov/superior
- Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SuperiorNF>

Incident Name: Fry Fire **Size:** 265 acres (56 acres prescribed fire and 209 acres wildfire)

Containment: 75%

Location: Superior National Forest, Tofte Ranger District. National Forest System lands south of the arc Trail, 177A on the UTV Trail. See Map: The Fry Unit (72 acres) is located north of MN Highway 1 and is bound on the west by Fish Fry Lake, north by the Little Isabella River, and east by the Little Isabella Campground. in Lake County, MN (Township 60N, Range 9W, Sections 25, 26).

Background: Ignitions were started on a Fry Prescribed Fire unit at 10:50am on May 15, 2024, under conditions that were within the guidelines outlined in the approved Burn Plan. Shortly after 12noon a spot fire was detected within the overall prescribed fire project area, outside the planned burn unit and in an area of denser fuels. Immediate action was taken to suppress the spot fire using both assigned and contingency resources.

The spot fire was declared a wildfire at 1:00pm CT when it was determined that additional resources not already assigned to the prescribed fire would be needed. In addition, the Lake County Emergency Manager was notified of the situation. Water dropping aircraft were ordered to help suppress the fire and after several hours were effective in slowing the fire spread.

In the late afternoon on May 16, the weather conditions moderated fire activity with full cloud cover and increased humidity levels. On site and additional crews and engines that were brought in from other locations on the Forest were able to start working directly along the fire's edge in the evening.

Current Status: Light rain has been falling over the fire area with .10 inch recorded as of this morning and another .15 inches at the time of this release. The rainfall, high humidity levels, and cooler temperatures have all helped subdue the fire activity and allowed crews to start working directly on securing the edge of the fire. Firefighters are using roads, trails and fire lines to access and secure the fire edge and work on mop up along the fire's edge. There is currently no immediate threat to private property or structures.

Mopping up involves putting water on the fire, and using tools to mix it into the soil and duff to extinguish the heat until the area is cooled. While there is currently no containment, the fire is not

actively pushing in any direction right now but rather observed as creeping and smoldering on the ground with some interior pockets of vegetation burning.

Planned Actions: Crews and engines will remain on site and keep working on securing the edge of the fire and working towards 100 percent containment. Containment means more than just constructing control line around a fire. After firefighting resources construct control line, the next step is to remove wildland fuel available to burn and/or extinguish sources of heat by mopping up. These actions are taken to secure control lines and prevent the fire from escaping under the current and expected weather forecast. Once secure, that area of the fire is considered contained.

Forecasted weather conditions are anticipated to help the firefighter efforts and the fire activity is expected to remain low in these conditions. Aircraft and additional resources are available in nearby locations to provide additional support if needed.

Public and firefighter safety are the highest priority so if the fire conditions change, we will communicate that by working with Lake County Emergency Management, and posting on the Superior National Forest Facebook page, Constant Contact email list ([sign up here](#)), and notifications to local media.

Resources: Six engines with crews, two off-Superior National Forest hotshot crews, one dozer, and several individual firefighters. A helicopter and other aerial resources are available to assist suppression activities as needed. The Superior National Forest's Beaver airplane is also available to drop water as needed.

Area Closures: None.

Structures: None.

Fire Restrictions: None.