



Black Canyon Fire

Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Fire Information: (406) 403-7965
2024.blackcanyon.mt@firenet.gov

<https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/mtmts-black-canyon-fire>



August 13, 2024

DNRC County Assist Team, Incident Commander David Hamilton

Location: 30 miles northwest of White Sulphur Springs, MT

Start Date: 8/10/2024

Cause: Undetermined; **Size:** 270 acres

Containment: 5%

236 Total Personnel; 10 Engines; 6 Helicopters; 7 Hand Crews; 6 Heavy Equipment

KEY MESSAGE

The decrease in acreage from yesterday is a result of more accurate mapping from an IR (infrared) flight that occurred on Monday at 3:30 p.m. Yesterday, the County Assist Team provided aircraft to assist with the suppression of the Ridgetop Fire and Pelican Point Fire.

CURRENT STATUS

Yesterday, six helicopters provided aerial support by dropping water to cool hot spots, and slow fire's spread primarily in the upper northeast and lower southeast corners of the fire where it was most active. Hand crews were hard at work constructing direct hand line along the fire's perimeter. Dozer operators worked on building contingency line in the northwest area of the fire's perimeter toward the rock face while a skidgen focused on improving the South Access Road for contingency on the southern border of the fire. The structure protection group continued to assess and prep structures where needed and were available for initial attack within the 7-mile temporary flight restriction (TFR) zone.

Today, hand crews will improve the northern contingency dozer line. The skidgen will improve the South Access Road until they reach the Smith River. Hand crews will construct and improve upon previously constructed handlines.

Working in cooperation with landowners and Meagher County officials, fire managers have identified and prioritized critical values at risk, focusing on keeping the fire west of the Smith River and protecting private structures in the area.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Today, it will be mostly cloudy with high temperatures ranging from 75 to 78 degrees and variable southwest winds up to 10 mph. Expect isolated thunderstorms to move through the area bringing the potential for strong winds, lightning, and wetting rain.

