



# 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 14, 2024**

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## **DNRC County Assist Team, Incident Commander David Hamilton**

**Location:** 30 miles northwest of White Sulphur Springs, MT

**Start Date:** 8/10/2024

**Cause:** Lightning/Natural; Size: 230 acres

**Containment:** 10%

247 Total Personnel; 7 Engines; 5 Helicopters; 8 Crews; 6 Heavy Equipment

## **KEY MESSAGE**

Crews found many spot fires yesterday, which has made lining the fire's perimeter a slower process than planned. Helicopters have been vital in keeping the northern edge of the fire from spreading up slope by providing water bucket drops. Crews continue to keep the fire from advancing across the Smith River.

## **CURRENT STATUS**

On-the-ground mapping conducted early yesterday morning provided a more accurate perimeter of the fire area, including a reduction in acreage, and a better opportunity for crews to directly attack the fire. Yesterday, crews worked diligently, digging direct lines in all divisions. Helicopters used water on the northern end of the fire where it was most active, slowing the spread and creating time for crews to safely engage. New contingency dozer line was put in from the main road to the fire's edge. Another reconnaissance flight is scheduled for today to identify potential new sources of heat.

The same approach of full suppression and integrating lines around the fire is the mission for today. Adding more crews into the different areas of the northeastern side of the fire will aid in slowing progression up the slope where the fire seems to be most active. Crews will start "mop-up" operations, extinguishing or removing any burning material near the control line, and adding more hose lay along the lower and eastern portions of the fire where hand line has been completed.

## **WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR**

The weather forecast for Wednesday is partly sunny with showers throughout the day and a chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Expect southwest winds around 5 mph shifting to the northwest in the afternoon. Ridgetop winds will be northwest at 10 mph.

