



# 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 15, 2024**



---

## **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:** 233 acres

**Containment:** 20%

283 Total Personnel; 7 Engines; 3 Helicopters; 10 Crews; 6 Heavy Equipment

## **KEY MESSAGE**

The fire has been separated into three distinct fires with more accurate mapping: the northern fire, a 12 acre spot fire in the middle, and the southern fire. The northern fire and southern fires are completely lined. Mop-up operations will continue today. Helicopters will be hauling water blivets to the northeastern area of the fire today, establishing a more accessible water source for crews and engines. Full suppression is still the main objective for the crews. Attacking and lining spot fires while creating handline has slowed progression.

## **CURRENT STATUS**

Yesterday, direct line was established, tying in the south and east side of the fire using hand crews and a skidgine, a tool adapted from logging machinery that delivers water to hard-to-reach areas. Engines in these areas worked on the switchbacks slowing the fire's spread and extinguishing spot fires. On the northeastern side, crews laid 1500 feet of hose to assist crews in continued mop up operations (extinguishing or removing any burning materials near the control line). In the south area of the northern fire, crews chased numerous spot fires and prepared the area for water blivets (large plastic containers that hold water) for the engines and crews to use for easier access to the fire to be delivered via helicopter today.

Today, a Type 2 helicopter will deliver 22 water blivets, providing 1500 gallons of water, pumps, and bladder bags, to places on the east side of the fire to aid in mop-up operations. Firefighters will continue lining the 12 acre spot fire and checking for hot spots within 132 feet of the southern fire's perimeter.

## **WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR**

¼ inch of rain covered the incident area last night which may impact travel for fire personnel today due to clay-surfaced roads. Today, it will be mostly sunny with high temperatures ranging from 75-80 degrees with variable southeast winds up to 10 mph. Expect isolated showers/thunderstorms with a chance of precipitation in the afternoon and evening.