



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 17, 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: 63%

247 Total Personnel; 9 Engines; 4 Helicopters; 8 Crews; 5 Heavy Equipment

KEY MESSAGE

As mop-up operations continue and containment increases, fire resources will progressively demobilize today through Monday. The current objectives are focused on holding, improving, and securing existing fire line and rehabilitating previously constructed contingency lines.

CURRENT STATUS

Yesterday, crews focused on securing the fire perimeter through continued mop-up operations. A Type 1 helicopter (Chinook) dropped water on hot spots, while crews worked on holding and improving fire line by utilizing existing hose lays and 25,000 gallons of water. Two skidgines transported water to refill two large portable water tanks, positioned at the base of the old switchback road, allowing fire engines to refill and use the water on the fire. The southern fire is now completely contained, and crews have removed hoses from the area. Heavy equipment was used to rehabilitate previously constructed contingency lines.

Today, engines, heavy equipment operators and hand crews will continue mop-up operations on the northern fire and the 12-acre hot spot in the middle. For the fully contained southern fire, crews will patrol the area to ensure nothing crosses the fire's perimeter. Firefighters will remove hoses and equipment from the fire line when they are confident in its containment.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Last night, the incident area received 1/4 inch of rain. Fire behavior was moderate, with smoldering of heavy fuels (logs and stumps) in the interior and creeping in the interior islands of unburned fuels. Today, expect quiet and dry weather conditions with a chance of scattered thunderstorms. The weather will be sunny, with temperatures ranging from 78-82 degrees and variable southwest winds up to 10 mph.

