



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 18, 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: 88%

211 Total Personnel; 4 Engines; 2 Helicopters; 7 Crews; 4 Heavy Equipment

KEY MESSAGE

The current objectives have shifted to ensuring all fire personnel are well-rested, pacing themselves while performing duties, and identify and mitigate hazards on the fire line. Fire managers will verify and ensure the fire is 100% contained and controlled by Tuesday, August 20, through ongoing mop-up activities. The fire is currently 88% contained, with secure fire lines established around most of the perimeter. Extra resources have been demobilized or redirected to other priority incidents.

CURRENT STATUS

Last night, an Infrared Awareness Assessment (IAA) flight detected a few isolated hot spots within the fire perimeter that crews will extinguish today.

Mop-up operations will continue, with firefighters having secured 88% of the fire perimeter, extending 300 feet into the interior. Crews will also patrol and monitor the fireline to mitigate any residual heat near the control lines. They will continue removing hoses, pumps, and equipment from the fireline when they are confident in its containment. An excavator will complete the repair and rehabilitation of previously constructed dozer contingency lines northwest of the fire. The temporary flight restriction (TRF) over the fire area was lifted yesterday.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Fire behavior is minimal, with smoldering in the interior. Drying fuel conditions are expected today due to the return of warmer temperatures ranging from 82 to 87 degrees and high ridgetop winds up to 25 mph. The weather will be sunny, with a chance of scattered thunderstorms in the afternoon and variable southerly winds up to 10 mph.

