



# Short Draw Fire



Fire Information: (406) 421-2239 [Carmen.Borchelt@mt.gov](mailto:Carmen.Borchelt@mt.gov)

<https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/mtmts-short-draw-fire>

**September 15, 2024**

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## DNRC County Assist Team, Incident Commander David Hamilton

**Location:** 30 miles north of Gillette, Wyoming

**Start Date:** 9/11/2024; **Cause:** Undetermined; **Size:** 35,222 acres **Containment:** 27%  
254 Total Personnel 19 Engines; 3 Helicopters/Aircraft; 3 Hand Crews; 3 Heavy Equipment

### KEY MESSAGES

All evacuation warnings and notices issued by the Powder River County Sheriff's Office and Campbell County Sheriff's Office have been rescinded.

The Montana DNRC County Assist Team and local agencies have been connecting with affected landowners to provide available resources. For information on post-fire relief, please visit:

<https://www.uwyo.edu/barnbackyard/resources/wildfire.html>.

### CURRENT STATUS

Fire crews successfully conducted a burnout operation on the northwest side of the fire to connect and reduce an unburned pocket of vegetation. Hand crews, engine teams, and dozers have established control lines along the southeast and western perimeters. Additional control lines are expected to be established along the fire line throughout the day. Crews will continue patrolling and working inward from these lines to suppress hotspots. On the southwestern side, fire activity remains ongoing with hotspots and isolated torching, which is expected due to changing winds. Crews are actively monitoring this area and working to contain any flare-ups. Structure protection efforts are ongoing to ensure the safety of residents and valuable assets.

### WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Sunday's weather forecast includes light winds, low humidity and temperatures reaching the high 80s. Winds will shift from the southeast at 10-15 mph during the day. By Sunday night, temperatures will drop to around 57 degrees, and winds are expected to increase, with gusts reaching up to 25 mph.

The fire, initially spread by strong winds, has left many unburned pockets of green vegetation within its interior. Over the next few days these isolated fuel pockets are expected to burn and torch in the coming days due to changing winds.

### EVACUATIONS AND CLOSURES

All evacuation warnings and notices associated with the fire area have been rescinded. Please avoid the fire area as crews and aerial resources continue fire suppression efforts. The roads remain closed to non-local traffic. Ensuring firefighter safety and protecting life and preservation of grazing lands are most important.

There is a temporary flight restriction (TFR) over the fire area. For firefighter safety, please do not fly unmanned aerial systems in the area.

