



Short Draw Fire



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

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

September 17, 2024

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: 65%

233 Total Personnel 20 Engines; 2 Helicopters; 6 Hand Crews; 3 Heavy Equipment

KEY MESSAGES

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

Fireline has been successfully established along the east, north, and west perimeters of the fire, with a few remaining sections expected to turn black by the end of today. Crews are concentrating efforts on the south end, working to secure a solid control line. Mopping up and suppression efforts are ongoing, with teams working to extend control line efforts 200 feet into the fire area. North of 3 Bar Road, a significant unburned section of forest remains under close observation, with crews actively monitoring to ensure it doesn't ignite. Coal seams within the fire perimeter are being closely monitored and mapped as these underground deposits can smolder for extended periods and pose a risk for flare-ups. Meanwhile, excavators, dozers and road graders have begun repairing and rehabilitating previously constructed dozer contingency lines across the fire area to mitigate further impact and to restore the landscape.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Tuesday's weather is mostly sunny, becoming cloudy in the afternoon with temperatures in the mid to high 80s. South winds increasing to 15-20 mph with gusts up to 35 mph in the afternoon. A 55% chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Gusty and erratic winds expected near thunderstorms in the afternoon.

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All evacuation warnings and notices associated with the fire area have been rescinded.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.

