



# 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 18, 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:** 34,573 acres

**Containment:** 74%

160 Total Personnel 18 Engines; 1 Helicopters; 3 Hand Crews; 3 Heavy Equipment

### **KEY MESSAGES**

Fire managers will verify and ensure the fire is 100% contained and controlled by end of day Friday, September 20, through ongoing mop-up activities. The fire is currently 74% contained, with secure fire lines established around most of the perimeter. Extra resources have been demobilized or redirected to other priority incidents.

### **CURRENT STATUS**

Yesterday, firefighters patrolled and monitored the fire to ensure any remaining hot spots near the control lines were fully extinguished. These efforts are critical to preventing flare-ups and reinforcing containment. Crews continue to focus on mopping up—extinguishing embers, cooling down ash pits, and eliminating heat sources that could reignite under changing weather conditions. Their ongoing presence is key to ensuring that no heat lingers close to the control lines, reducing the risk of the fire spreading outside of the containment area. As part of these efforts, firefighters are also working to extend the control lines by 200 feet into the fire perimeter to further secure the area.

Meanwhile, excavators, dozers, and road graders have begun the crucial process of repairing and rehabilitating previously constructed dozer contingency lines throughout the fire area. This work is aimed at minimizing further environmental impact and helping to restore the landscape to its natural state.

### **WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR**

On Tuesday afternoon and evening, the fire area sustained winds reaching up to 40 mph, followed by rainfall. Windy conditions are expected to persist from Wednesday afternoon through Thursday morning, with gusts potentially reaching up to 45 mph. Additionally, steady rain is forecasted for Wednesday morning through the afternoon, which may offer some relief but also contribute to changing fire dynamics.

### **EVACUATIONS AND CLOSURES**

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.

