



Copper King Fire Update

Thursday, September 1, 2016, 8:00 a.m.

Fire Information: (406) 203-8203 - Phone hours: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Email: copperkingpio@gmail.com

NOTICE: Log hauling is being permitted through the Area Closure from midnight to 6:00 AM daily.

Location: Lolo National Forest, eight miles east of Thompson Falls; one mile north of Highway 200.

Incident Command: The Copper King Fire is being managed by Greg Poncin's Type I Northern Rockies Incident Management Team.

Air Quality Alert: Check the Montana Department of Environmental Quality website at deq.mt.gov/Air or inciweb.nwcg.gov for the current update on Air Quality impacts.

Fire Closure: An area closure is in effect for lands, trails and roads administered by the USDA Forest Service, Montana DNRC, Sanders County and Weyerhaeuser. An area closure map is posted at tinyurl.com/hftr4on.

Evacuations: *Evacuation notices remain in effect.* For more information on evacuation status, call (406) 827-3584, extension 3 or visit the Sanders County Sheriff's Facebook page at tinyurl.com/ja3nn8l.

Yesterday: Crews worked hard to keep fire activity along the Highway 200 corridor from encroaching onto private property by creating containment lines below the cliff face. On the northwest edge of the fire, crews continue mop up and patrol along the ACM road. Hand firing activity was completed along the northwest and northeast edges of the fire while crews continued to patrol on the east edge of the fire to protect the structures. The planned aerial ignition near Munson Creek was delayed due to the forecasted weather.

Today's Weather and Fire Behavior: Today will be the last day of warm weather before wet weather moves into the area over the weekend. Temperatures will be in the 80s with relative humidity around 20 percent and winds should be light. Winds will increase on ridge tops and in exposed areas in the evening with winds speeds in the teens and gusts up to 30 miles per hour. Fire growth is expected along unlined areas in the southern region of the fire. Wetting rain is expected to start overnight.

Today's Planned Actions: Crews will continue similar work as yesterday focusing on finishing and securing lines from east of Weeksville Creek to west Big Hole Lookout. The objective for fire management is to keep structures and other values safe, keep the fire north of Highway 200, west of Weeksville Road, and between the Little Thompson River and the Thompson River.

Air Operations: A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) remains in effect over this fire. Please check with the FAA or your local flight service station prior to flying in the area of the fire. The aerial resources assigned to the Copper King Fire are available for use both on this incident and for initial attack.

Although drones are fun to fly, they can be deadly if flown near wildfires. Know before you fly.

Cooperating Agencies: Lolo National Forest, Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC), Sanders County, Sanders County Sheriff, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

For Copper King Fire information: inciweb.nwcg.gov
An interactive map of the fire perimeter is at: goo.gl/xMXLYs

STATISTICS	
Detected:	July 31, 2016
Cause:	Under Investigation
Current Size:	27,788 acres (As of 11:47 PM August 30, 2016)
Containment:	20%
Structures Lost:	None
Estimated Costs:	\$19.4 Million
Resources Assigned:	
Type 1 Crews:	6
Type 2 Crews:	10
Camp Crews:	4
Dozers:	11
Engines:	58
Water Tenders:	26
Helicopters:	8
Total Personnel:	838