

Incident Name: Whole Lotta Fire
Fire Origin: 08/14/08 @ 1415 hours
Incident Cause: Unknown, suspected lightning
Incident Number: MT-SBF-0056

Day 1 – 08/14/08 :

Started on Smokey Bear National Forest ownership, T8N, Range 53E, Section 29

Protection Agencies:

USFS for USFS & State and private land within Hedgehog County

Acres Burned: 1531

USFS - 1020

State – 257

Hedgehog County (private) – 254

- Managed by T3 organization under unified command with the Sentinel Fire District
- T2 team under consideration
- 2 - State T2 helicopters provided bucket drops
- Structure protection measures put in place for 20 private structures under FS protection within the fire area.
- Minimal structure protection measures put in place on 50 structures in advance of the fire by Sentinel Fire District in the Fire Bucket Subdivision. Fire is currently 3 miles from the subdivision.

Day 2 – 08/15/08:

The fire has now burned onto BIA and private lands protected by the Sentinel Fire District within Grizzly County.

Protection Agencies:

USFS for USFS and State and private ownership within Hedgehog County

BIA for BIA ownership

Sentinel Fire District within Grizzly County

Acres Burned by ownership: 4319

USFS – 1347

BIA – 725

State – 371

Hedgehog County (private) – 254

Grizzly County (private) – 1621

- Managed by T3 organization under unified command with the Sentinel Fire District
- T1 team ordered

- BIA has cultural resources that need specific protection tactics for the value at risk.
- Mutual aid agreement in place for the first 4 hours for Grizzly County Resources
- Situational Analysis projects fire to move to the North and East, worst case scenario the fire would burn into the Ponderosa Drainage that is under USFS and Grizzly County protection. The Ponderosa Drainage includes a ski area, major communication site for the City of Fishers (including emergency services repeaters), and a Forest Service recreational cabin, and are all under USFS special use permits.
- Actions have been taken on private property within Grizzly County in advance of the fire in the Ponderosa Drainage. This includes home assessments and fuel mitigation on 35 structures.

Day 3 – 08/16/08:

Protection Agencies:

USFS for USFS and State and private ownership within Hedgehog County, state ownership within Grizzly County
BIA for BIA ownership
Sentinel Fire District covers all Grizzly County

Acres Burned by ownership: 21,438

USFS – 9719

BIA – 4900

State – 1336

Hedgehog County (private) – 254

Grizzly County (private) – 5229

- T1 team in place
- Major run into Grizzly County
- Grizzly County Sheriff evacuated the homes in the Fire Bucket Subdivision.
- Highway Patrol was used to close the interstate due to smoke.
- MT County Assist requested and granted
- Montana Mutual Aid (statewide structure protection resources) requested for Ponderosa Drainage.
- Per pre-season discussions, it was identified that the USFS would provide direct protection on state lands within its protection boundaries.

Fire was contained on 08/30/08 and declared controlled on 9/5/08 1700 hours

Total acres burned – 22,350

I-Suite estimates for the entire fire are \$5,250,000