



Tumble Creek Fire

August 8, 2008

8:00 am

INCIDENT COMMANDER: Tom Heintz
INFORMATION OFFICERS: Brian LaMoure, Kim Frasier,
Elizabeth Ballard
PHONE: 406-328-4958 / 406-328-4959
LOCATION: Dean School house located at Nye, MT
JURISDICTION: Custer National Forest

RESOURCES:

PERSONNEL: 139

HELICOPTERS: 3

ACRES: 380

The Tumble Creek fire is located approximately 7 miles west of the Stillwater Mine in the Beartooth Wilderness. The fire is burning in rugged terrain that is difficult to access. Currently at risk are wilderness values, grizzly bear habitat and a historic mining camp. Yesterday the fire was fairly inactive, with continued creeping and smoldering throughout the day. Three Type 1 crews are currently on the fire and are having to camp on the mountain. Potential for fire growth is medium and the difficulty of the terrain is extreme. No structures are currently at risk.

Yesterdays fire efforts included hand crews building direct fire line, where foot traffic was feasible, and mopping up 300 feet into the burned area from the line. One helicopter dropped 6,000 gallons of retardant on hot spots. One helicopter performed reconnaissance over the fire. The boundary of the fire perimeter was determined by field observers and aerial reconnaissance.

Currently the Tumble Creek fire is estimated 80% contained. Unless an unexpected wind event occurs, containment is likely today August 8, 2008.

ACTIONS PLANNED: Crews will continue mop up and helicopter water bucket drops will be dropped on hot spots as needed. Spike camps will be cleaned and all equipment backhauled.

WEATHER: Today more thunderstorms are possible, with temperatures in the low 80's.

Woodbine Campground and Trail #24 are open. Picket Pin Road #1140 and Trail #72 are open.

CLOSURES: Road closures are in place for the West Fork of Stillwater Road, FS road #846. Additionally, a fire area closure is in place for the area that includes Trail # 20 and #90, as well as the Initial Creek Campground.

Stage 1 fire restrictions are in place for Stillwater County.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Tumble Creek fire information at the above listed number. Additional national fire information can be found at www.inciweb.org