


**Forest Service**

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 Web: [www.fs.usda.gov/alabama](http://www.fs.usda.gov/alabama)

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# Wildfire Daily Updates

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## Bankhead National Forest – Big Tree Wildfire, Sipsey Wilderness

**Incident: Big Tree Wildfire**
**Released: 10/25/2015-Time: 9:00 a.m.**

A 1908-acre wildfire continues to burn in the Sipsey Wilderness of the Bankhead National Forest as of **Oct. 25**. U.S. Forest Service fire personnel are taking immediate action to contain the fire that has temporarily closed 8 trails leading into the Sipsey Wilderness. **Today's strategy is to control, monitor and maintain the fire line.** The public living near the Sipsey Wilderness may see an increase in smoke and Forest Service personnel. Hikers planning to use 4 open trails in the Sipsey Wilderness and hunters in the Black Warrior Management Area are asked to check the Forest Service website, bulletin boards, Facebook and Twitter for a listing of open trails and status updates. The safety of the public and wildland firefighters is our number one priority.

[Big Tree Wildfire website](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/AL/BigTreeWildfire) (<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/AL/BigTreeWildfire>)

### Quick Facts

- Wildland fire type: Wildland Fire (Wilderness)
- Cause: Law Enforcement Officers are currently investigating
- Reported: Oct. 16 to Bankhead District Dispatch by hikers at 4:14 p.m.
- Location: Northwest Alabama - Sipsey Wilderness and the Black Warrior Management Area (Lawrence County) in the Bankhead National Forest.
- Acres involved now: 1908 acres as of Oct. 25
- Containment: 30%
- Equipment: Hand crews, leaf blowers and a Type 3 helicopter. No heavy equipment used.
- Personnel: 38 single resources from various states –Alabama, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Tennessee. One Hotshot Crew (15 person) from Virginia and an Initial Attack Crew (20 person) from Asheville, NC.
- Strategy: Hand crews, leaf blowers and burn out are used to have less impact and maintain wilderness characteristics.
- Incident Command Post-Bankhead District Office, 1070 Highway 33, Double Springs, AL, Phone: 205-489-5111