



Flathead National Forest

www.fs.usda.gov/flathead

Media Release

July 29, 2012

Contact: Wade Muehlhof
(406) 758-5252

Rapid Creek One of Five New Lightning Caused Fires

Some Trails in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Closed

KALISPELL, MT – After a Sunday evening flight, fire managers estimate the Rapid Creek Fire in the Bob Marshall Wilderness at 500 acres. Smoke from the Rapid Creek fire is visible from the south-east end of the Flathead Valley. Some trails in the area of the Rapid Creek Fire have been closed (see map in INCIWEB.) Lightning strikes from the past week have ignited at least five new fires on the Flathead National Forest detected between Saturday and Sunday. As of 8:30 p.m. July 29, 2012, the following fires are being managed for suppression on the Flathead National Forest:

Rapid Creek Fire 500 acres Near Rapid Creek in the Bob Marshall Wilderness
Not Staffed (<http://inciweb.org/incident/3057/>)

Coal Creek Fire 3 acres S.W. of Cyclone Lake - Hungry Horse Ranger District
16 firefighters doing initial attack with helicopter support

Union Peak Fire .5 acre Union Peak on the Swan Lake Ranger District
Not staffed – Helicopter dropped water earlier today

Pentagon Fire .5 acre Near Pentagon Creek in the Bob Marshall Wilderness
13 firefighters doing initial attack with helicopter support

Gunsight Fire .1 acre Gunsight Peak in the Great Bear Wilderness
Controlled/Contained

A map of the current fires is available at:

http://maps.google.com/maps?q=http://66.134.213.74/WildEarth/WildCAD_MT-KIC.kml&output=embed

- END-