

STONEWALL FIRE

FIRE INFORMATION FACT SHEET

Date: August 28, 2012

Time: 11:30 p.m.

Information Officer: Kathy Bushnell, 406-422-7164

Incident: Stonewall Fire

Detected/Reported: August 27, 2012

Cause: Lightning

Location: T15N, R9W, Section 23, approximately one mile south of the Stonewall Lookout and 5 miles north of Lincoln, Montana on the Helena National Forest-Lincoln Ranger District

Incident Commanders: Jay Lindgren, Beau Macy (Trainee)

Approximate Size: 12 acres

Fire Update:

The Stonewall Fire is actively burning on the Helena National Forest-Lincoln Ranger District about a mile south of the Stonewall Lookout. The fire was ignited by lightning from a thunderstorm that came through the area at about 3 p.m. yesterday.

Currently, the fire is actively burning in heavy timber, with some tree torching and spotting. One of the spot fires is about two acres and is located northeast of the main fire. Fourteen firefighters were flown into the fire last night for direct attack and two 20-person crews are being flown to the fire today to assist with suppression activities. Four helicopters will be assisting with water drops throughout the day. Smoke remains visible to Lincoln residents.

There is a Red Flag Warning over the fire area today until midnight on Wednesday for gusty winds and low relative humidity levels. Today, temperatures could reach the mid-80s and relative humidity levels could dip to a minimum of 12% with gusty southwest winds at 10-20 mph.

Several thunderstorms moved through the Lincoln area yesterday and last night, all of which were accompanied by lightning, gusty winds and minimal precipitation. The lightning from last night coupled with the critical fire weather conditions for today and tomorrow could result in more fire ignitions. Lincoln Ranger District personnel continue to prepare for any additional fire reports and initial attack response.

A public meeting is scheduled for today at 5 p.m. at Hooper Park in Lincoln to discuss both the Stonewall and East Fork Fires.

Fire danger level: High

More information: visit Inciweb at www.inciweb.org or call Kathy Bushnell at 406-422-7164

