

	<p style="text-align: center;">Green Valley Fire Daily Update May 15, 2013, 6:00 AM</p>
Current Status	<p>The Green Valley Fire started on private land northwest of Menahga at approximately 3:00 PM on Tuesday, May 14, 2013. The fire is roughly estimated at 3,000 to 4,000 acres in size. Strong winds and dry conditions contributed to fire spread. The effects of the drought linger and vegetation is extremely dry. A Minnesota Type 2 Incident Management Team (IC Aultman) is assigned effective 6:00 AM on Wednesday, May 15, 2013.</p>
Acreage	<p>Roughly estimated at 3,000 to 4,000 acres.</p>
Containment	<p>The fire is zero percent contained.</p>
Values at Risk	<p>At risk are private lands, homes, cabins and other structures.</p>
Structures Lost	<p>An unconfirmed number of homes and other structures have been lost.</p>
Resources Assigned	<p>Equipment including engines, tracked vehicles and dozers are being assigned to the fire. Multiple air resources are also assigned, including helicopters and single engine air tankers. Additionally, the Minnesota National Guard has sent 2 Blackhawk helicopters with a 600 gallon buckets and a Chinook helicopter with a 2,000 gallon bucket.</p>
Cooperators	<p>Cooperators in the effort include the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Becker County Sheriff, the Wadena County Sheriff and multiple local fire departments. This fire will be managed under unified command with the DNR, County Sheriffs and fire chiefs from the Wolf Lake and Park Rapids Fire Departments.</p>
Wednesday (May 15, 2013) Plans	<p>On Wednesday, fire crews will focus their efforts on protecting threatened structures and containing the fire using heavy equipment and air resources. In addition, mop up around threatened structures in the fire and 150 inside the perimeter where possible.</p>
Fire Weather	<p>A combination of high temperatures, low relative humidity and strong, gusty winds are produced extreme fire conditions. Weather conditions greatly reduced the effectiveness of air resources. Wednesday's weather is expected to be sunny, with temperatures in the mid-70s, humidity's of 29-34 percent range and northwest winds of 10-15 miles per hour.</p>
Fire Behavior	<p>This was a running crown fire involving jack pine, aspen and hardwoods. Some spotting of up to half a mile ahead of the fire has been observed.</p>
Road Closures	<p>Highway 71 between Park Rapids and Menahga is closed between County Road 87 to the north and Main Street in Menahga to the south. Traffic is being redirected along alternate routes. Additional closures may be possible throughout the day.</p>
Fire and Other Information	<p>Ron Sanow and Mark Erickson Phone communications are being established. Numbers will be provided when they become available.</p>