



Radar Fire Update

Friday, July 16, 2021

MNICS Team A, Incident Commander Ernie Schmitt

Fire Information: 218-209-2633, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
2021.radar@firenet.gov

Location: 5 miles northwest of Bemidji in Eckles Township near Radar Road.

Yesterday's Accomplishments: Crews achieved 70% containment yesterday along the eastern and southern edges of the fire. Dozers, excavators, and crews searched for hot spots along the western edge. A dozer line encircles the fire area, pockets of unburned fuels remain between the burned area and dozer line. This is known as indirect line. Firefighters continue to patrol these areas and extinguish any fire activity or heat detected. Yesterday afternoon, some crews and equipment were released to assist and coordinate with initial attack with a fire start near the Bemidji Trap & Skeet Club. After the fire was controlled, they returned to continue mop up efforts on the Radar Fire.

Today's Planned Actions: Crews and heavy equipment will continue to mop up, patrol, and grid within the interior of the fire area. Gridding is a tactic used by firefighters to work across the fire area in an organized way to find pockets of heat and cool them down to avoid flare-ups in drier, windy conditions. An infrared heat detection flight will be conducted to assess fire conditions and locate pockets of heat. Any heat detected will be fully suppressed and extinguished by firefighters. Crews and equipment will be available today for initial attack operations in the local area if any new fire starts occur.

Weather and Fire Behavior: High near 90 today with south, southwest winds at 5 - 10 mph. An air quality alert is in effect until 9:00 a.m. There is no precipitation predicted through the weekend. Extremely dry fuels due to the persistent drought are exacerbating fire danger. Burning restrictions are in place for all of Beltrami County within state jurisdiction: campfires are only allowed in established fire rings at a home, cabin, campground or resort; no campfires allowed in remote or dispersed campsites or backcountry lands; no fireworks may be ignited on any public or private lands, with additional restrictions within cities; and burning permits will not be issued for brush or yard waste. The burning restrictions will remain in effect until weather and environmental conditions improve.

Closures: Radar Road is closed to non-essential traffic. Please do not hinder firefighting response by travelling to the area, stopping, or slowing traffic near Radar Road. There are currently no other closures in place.

Firewise: Learn about creating defensible space to protect your home or property by visiting Minnesota DNR's Firewise page (dnr.state.mn.us/firewise/livingwithfire/).

Cooperating Agencies: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Bemidji Fire Department, Solway Fire Department, Beltrami County Sheriff's Department

Incident Statistics	
Size:	60 acres
Containment:	70 percent
Structures damaged:	0
Structures destroyed:	0
Injuries:	none
Date detected:	July 13, 2021
Cause:	Human
Resources	
Personnel:	55
Engines:	6
Track Vehicles:	6
Dozers:	1
Excavator:	1
Water Tenders:	2
Aircraft:	0