



County Rd 11 Fire - Daily Fire Update

Sunday, September 10, 2023

MNICS Team B - Incident Commander Aaron Mielke

Fire Information: 218-432-0953, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Email: 2023.countyroad11@firenet.gov

County Rd 11 Fire Quick Facts

Size: 82 acres

Containment: 98%

Start Date: 9/4/2023

Location: Barnum, MN

Cause: Under investigation

Resources: 6 engines, 3 dozers,
2 water tenders, 2 excavators,
and 6 tracked vehicles

Total Personnel: 37

Operations: Today, heavy machinery and firefighters will continue to mop up hot areas of the fire, working in tandem to push the vegetation to expose the burning peat, and then spray water to cool and extinguish the burning vegetation. Yesterday's infrared flight located hot spots within the fire for resources to prioritize. The western portion of the fire holds more heat than the eastern portion due to vegetation type such as peat lowland versus deciduous timber and initial fire activity. Additionally, resources are working through the storm-impacted trees that are slowing progress some on the western portion.

Suppression objectives include continuing to mop up the fire to 100 feet in from the fire perimeter. The organic composition of peat soil provides a long-term fuel source for a wildfire to spread underground, so effective suppression is important.

Yesterday, resources mopped up the control line and worked the interior, helping to raise the containment percentage. Mopping up means locating hot areas of the fire and extinguishing them with water. The fire received 5 hundredths of an inch of rain in the last 24 hours.

National Weather Service Forecast: A slight chance of showers before 10 pm, then a slight chance of showers after 4 am. Mostly cloudy with a low around 46. Northeast wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation 20%.

Evacuations and Road Closures: All evacuation orders and road closures have been lifted. Electronic signs have been placed on County Road 11 for safety. Please use caution and be aware of firefighter traffic.

Air Operations: Aircraft are available and may be brought in to help support mop-up efforts. A reminder - flying drones over the fire is prohibited. **If drones are detected near the County Rd 11, any air operations supporting the fire will stop.**

Cooperating Agencies: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, and mutual aid from Barnum, Moose Lake, Black Hoof, and Carlton Fire Departments, Carlton County Emergency Management and Carlton County Sherriff's Office