



# County Rd 11 Fire - Daily Fire Update

Monday, September 11, 2023

MNICS Team B - Incident Commander Aaron Mielke

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

**Email:** [2023.countyroad11@firenet.gov](mailto: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

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**Operations:** Today, resources continue to mop up the fire, working inward from the fire's perimeter. Fire activity is minimal with creeping and smoldering. Despite dry conditions, efforts and tactics are going well. The fire is burning within peat vegetation, which is tedious to fully extinguish. Resources continue to work through storm-impacted areas, timber, shrubs, and heavy vegetation on the western portion of the fire.

Suppression objectives include continuing to mop up the fire perimeter. Heavy machinery continues to strengthen the containment line where needed and to push burning vegetation for firefighters to extinguish it. Ground resources are patrolling and "cold trailing" the containment line and fire area. Cold trailing means feeling fire areas, such as the burnt soil and peat, for remaining heat sources. Some existing resources have started to demob (or depart): Additional replacement resources may assist as needed.

Yesterday, crews and heavy equipment continued to work together to strengthen the containment line and mop up. Little to no rain fell on the fire. The organic composition of peat soil provides a long-term fuel source for a wildfire to spread underground, so effective suppression is important.

**National Weather Service Forecast:** A chance of showers between 10am and 1pm, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Patchy fog before 10am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 67. North wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east in the morning. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**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 Sheriff's Office