



## **CARTY FIRE UPDATE Friday, May 8, 2015, 11:00 AM**

- Current Status** The Carty Fire, discovered on Sunday, May 3, 2015, is being managed by Mark Twain National Forest, with assistance of several Federal, state and local cooperators. Additional assistance is coming from the State of Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and several other states. It is burning actively in downed and live timber located on public and private lands approximately one mile southwest of the community of Black, Missouri. The downed timber is a result of a May 8, 2009 Derecho wind event, whose strong winds toppled or damaged 1,000s of acres of public and private timber lands across southeastern Missouri. Heavy fuels and steep terrain continue to hamper suppression efforts. Firefighters expect to be battling this wildfire until the next significant rain event; possibility of precipitation improves as the weekend approaches.
- Acreage** Estimated at 1,331 acres as of 9:00 PM, Thursday, May 7, 2015.
- Containment** Firefighters made significant progress today; containment is now estimated at 40%.
- Values at Risk** An estimated 30 private homes and other structures, as well as a high tension power line, water, timber and other resources on private and public lands.
- Structures Lost** No structures have been lost.
- Resources Assigned** Approximately 145 personnel are currently assigned to the incident. Other firefighting resources include 7 bulldozers, 9 engines, and 2 helicopters; a Type 1 heavy helicopter, capable of carrying over 2,000 gallons of water, arrived this morning. Two 20-person Type 1 Hotshot fire crews are available today. Also, local volunteer fire departments and an ambulance are available as needed.
- Cooperators** Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri Department of Conservation, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Reynolds County government, City of Ellington, local volunteer fire departments and Spring Valley Youth Ranch.
- Current Status** Yesterday, firefighters made significant progress on all flanks. Containment lines were improved in several locations. Firefighters continued evening burnout operations on the southwest, northeast and southeast flanks as fire behavior and weather conditions allowed. An air tanker made one drop on the southwest flank in support of burnout operations. The structure protection group completed burnout of fuels adjacent to structures at the Valley Springs Youth Ranch yesterday. This has significantly reduced the fire threat. Improvement and mop-up of containment lines around structures will continue today. Burnout operations will continue today where needed. The majority of the east flank is now in a patrol and mop-up status.
- Fire Weather** Today's forecast is mostly cloudy, with temperatures near 80. Wind will be out of the south at 4-8 mph early, increasing to 6-10 mph later today. There is a 60% chance of rain; up to 0.31" is predicted for the area by the National Weather Service. Light rain showers of rain are occurring on parts of the fire this morning.
- Fire Behavior** The fire is burning actively in downed timber from the 2009 Derecho event. Higher humidity tonight should result in the fire being less active during the overnight hours.
- Road Closures** Reynolds County 824 on the north flank, and Reynolds County 822 on the west flank, are closed all but emergency traffic. Individual roads will be re-opened as soon as possible for public use once there is longer a tactical need for firefighting operations.
- Fire and Other Information** Carty Fire Information can be reached at 573-269-4291, Extension 242. Information will be available generally during the hours of 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Information will also be posted on the web under Updated Fire Information on the [website](http://gacc.nifc.gov/eacc/dispatch_centers/MOCC/information/fire_information.htm)  
[http://gacc.nifc.gov/eacc/dispatch\\_centers/MOCC/information/fire\\_information.htm](http://gacc.nifc.gov/eacc/dispatch_centers/MOCC/information/fire_information.htm).