



## CARTY FIRE UPDATE Friday, May 8, 2015, 8:00 PM

- 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. It is burning in downed and live timber located on public and private lands approximately two miles southwest of the community of Black, Missouri. Firefighters have made significant progress over the past few days, and the fire is now estimated at 50% containment.
- The downed timber is a result of a May 8, 2009 Derecho wind event that occurred six years ago today. The Derecho's strong winds toppled or damaged more than 113,000 acres of public and private timber lands across southeastern Missouri. The wind event created large areas of forest with heavy concentrations of downed woody material. These heavy fuel concentrations have caused fire control challenges over the last six years for the forest, including higher fire intensities, more difficult access, and slower line building capability.
- 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 50%.
- Values at Risk** 32 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 110 personnel are currently assigned to the incident. Other firefighting resources include 6 bulldozers, 9 engines, 2 helicopters, and two 20-person Type 1 Hotshot fire crews. 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** Light rain showers fell intermittently on most of the fire today in the late morning-early afternoon, helping firefighting efforts. Firefighters continued to improve containment lines around the fire perimeter. Improvement and mop-up of containment lines around structures continued today. The south flank is now in a monitor, patrol, and mop-up status. The east flank is now in a patrol and mop-up status. Structure protection and public safety measures will continue tomorrow. Also, firefighters will continue to improve containment lines and mop-up where possible around the fire perimeter.
- Fire Weather** Tonight's forecast is mostly cloudy, with a 50% chance of thunderstorms. Temperatures will be in the mid-60s. Winds will be southwest at 3-7 mph; humidity is predicted to rise to 92% tonight. Tomorrow, there is a 50% chance of thunderstorms. Temperatures will be in the low 80s, with humidity between 46-51%. Winds will be out of the south at 5-9 mph.
- Fire Behavior** The fire is burning and smoldering in downed timber from the 2009 Derecho event. Higher humidity again 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).