



## CARTY FIRE UPDATE Saturday, May 9, 2015, 6:00 PM

<b>Status</b>	<p>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 70% contained. Up to 0.6” rain has fallen on parts of the fire since Friday morning, and it allowed firefighters to make excellent progress yesterday and today. Calculated demobilization of assigned resources is in progress.</p> <p>The downed timber is a result of a May 8, 2009 Derecho wind event that occurred six years ago. 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.</p>
<b>Acres</b>	Estimated at 1,331 acres as of 9:00 PM, Thursday, May 7, 2015. Acres has not increased.
<b>Containment</b>	Firefighters made significant progress again yesterday; containment is estimated at 70%.
<b>Values at Risk</b>	The threat to the 32 homes and other structures, high tension power line, water, timber and other resources on private and public lands has been significantly reduced.
<b>Structures Lost</b>	No structures have been lost.
<b>Resources Assigned</b>	Given the rain and progress, the incident is releasing resources, and a smaller number of personnel will be assigned by tomorrow morning. Approximately 61 personnel are currently assigned, including two 20-person crews, other firefighters, and overhead managing the incident. Equipment includes 2 engines and 2 dozers. An excavator will be available tomorrow. Transfer of command to a smaller, Type 3, organization will occur mid-day tomorrow.
<b>Cooperators</b>	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 Valley Springs Youth Ranch.
<b>Current Status</b>	Up to 0.6” rain has fallen on parts of the fire since yesterday morning, and has helped significantly in fire suppression efforts. Today, firefighters were improving some containment lines, conducting mop-up, and addressing hazard trees adjacent to roads. Also, they monitored and patrolled the perimeter. Tomorrow, firefighters will focus on finishing line construction, mop-up as needed, and assessing and implementing rehab needs. Starting in the morning, an excavator that arrived late today will be used to help rehabilitate dozer-constructed containment lines.
<b>Fire Weather</b>	Tonight, the weather is expected to be mostly cloudy with a 50% chance of scattered thunderstorms. An estimated 0.13” of rain is predicted for the fire area. The high temperature will be around 65 degrees, with humidity rising to 95%. Winds will be out of the south at 5-9 mph. Sunday, the weather is expected to be mostly cloudy again with a 50% chance of scattered thunderstorms. High will be near 82 degrees, with humidity 54-59%. Winds are expected to increase to 10-14 mph, with gusts to 23 mph.
<b>Fire Behavior</b>	The fire is still smoldering and backing in downed timber from the 2009 Derecho event. Rain and higher humidity have made the fire less active for now.
<b>Road Closures</b>	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.
<b>Fire and Other Information</b>	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 <a href="http://gacc.nifc.gov/eacc/dispatch_centers/MOCC/information/fire_information.htm">website</a> <a href="http://gacc.nifc.gov/eacc/dispatch_centers/MOCC/information/fire_information.htm">http://gacc.nifc.gov/eacc/dispatch_centers/MOCC/information/fire_information.htm</a> .