

2026 - Montana DNRC Incidents of Interest -Process

When do I need to use the IOI?

- Non-DNRC or LG fires of mutual interest to DNRC shall be documented in the Incident of Interest (IOI) application as soon as practicable after detection. Line Officers, Fire Managers, and Duty Officers are responsible for completing the IOI
- IOI will serve as the initial collection point for basic fire data that may require the attention of Bureau, Division, or Department leadership.

Complete an IOI when any of the following apply:

- The incident has, or is likely to have, DNRC financial exposure beyond routine initial attack (e.g., extended attack, large fire potential, or cost share).
- The incident involves mutual interest or jurisdictional complexity between DNRC and federal, tribal, county, or municipal partners (e.g., unified command, protection boundary issues, cooperative agreements).
- The incident has potential for significant acreage growth, resource commitment, or complexity (e.g., transition to Type 3 or higher IMT, ordering of aviation resources, long-duration incidents).
- The incident occurs in or threatens high-value areas, including WUI, critical infrastructure, municipal watersheds, or high-priority timber and rangeland.
- The incident is likely to draw media attention, public concern, or legislative/Commissioner interest (e.g., evacuations, closures, smoke impacts to populated areas).
- The incident involves unusual operational risk or other safety-sensitive conditions warranting leadership awareness.
- The incident requires or is expected to require cross-bureau, cross-division, or coordination within DNRC.
- The incident is designated by any Line Officer, Fire Manager, or Duty Officer as needing elevated visibility for situational awareness, decision support, or documentation.

Expectations for maintenance and closure:

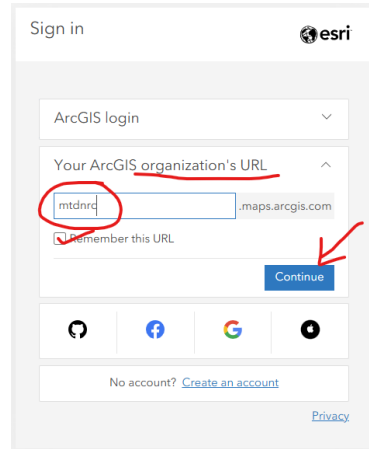
- Initial IOI entry should be made by the responsible Duty Officer (or designee) at the time the incident meets any of the above criteria. For incidents that transition to large or complex incidents with an assigned Incident Management Team, routine IOI updates are not required. The responsible Land Office shall update the IOI and reference "See current year Fire Management File" for additional information/status.
- IOIs should be updated at key decision points (e.g., strategy changes, IMT transitions, evacuations, major cost or acreage milestones) and, for long-duration incidents (e.g., monitor-status wilderness events), at least weekly as information is refreshed
- IOIs should be closed or archived when the incident is controlled and no further leadership decisions, cost recovery actions, or after-action follow-up are anticipated.

2026 – Using the IOI Application

If you already have an AGOL account you can skip this step

Users of the IOI system will need a DNRC [ArcGIS Online](#) account –

Set the Organization URL enter mtdnrc, remember URL, and click continue to get your account.



Sign in esri

ArcGIS login

Your ArcGIS organization's URL

mtdnrc .maps.arcgis.com

Remember this URL

Continue

No account? [Create an account](#)

[Privacy](#)

[Open the IOI application](#) and save in your browser favorites

This is the home screen of the IOI application. The left hand side is the map, and has some various options such as zoom, basemap switcher and layers. The default layer is ownership, current incident points and perimeters, and will show any active IOIs as well.



Montana DNRC - Incidents of Interest (IOI)

View Table →

Start IOI

Archive IOI

Help

Start IOI

Montana DNRC - IOI

Select Date and Time*

4/25/2025

09:29 AM

Enter your name*

Area Office*

-Please select-

Incident Name

Selected features: 0

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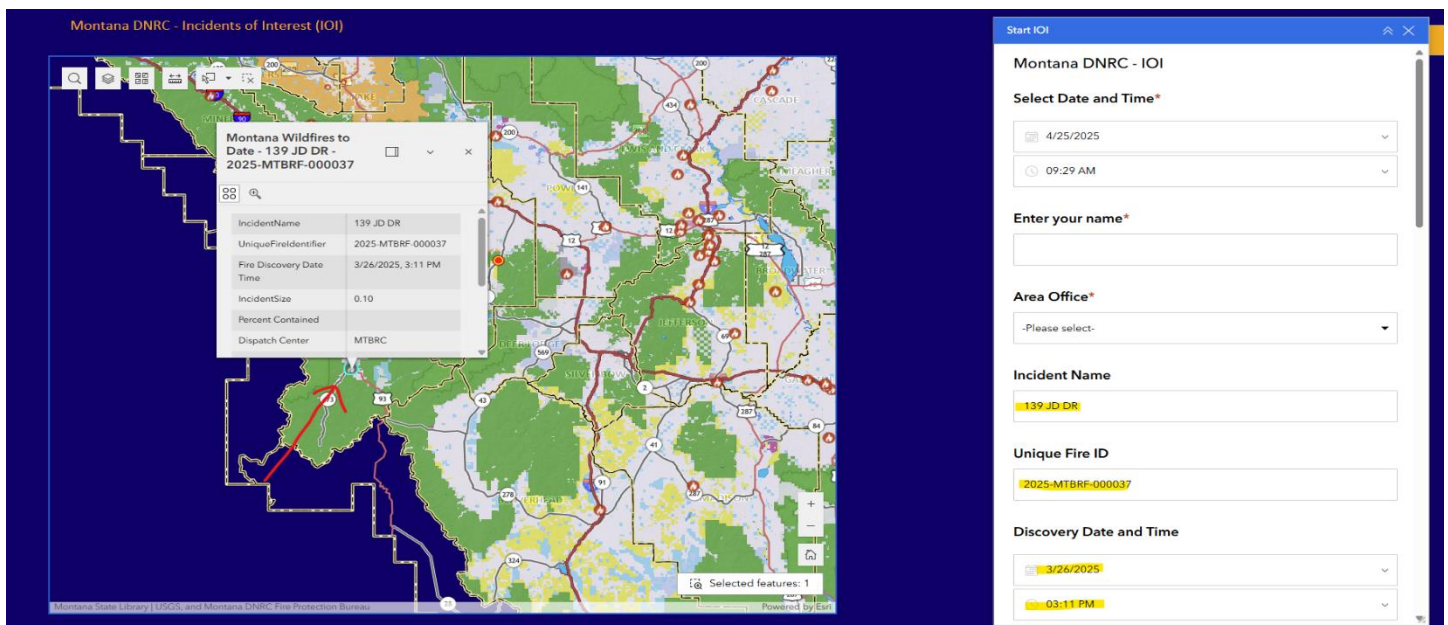


On the right hand side are various actions that you can make with the incidents and a link to view a table of current IOIs. The default form opened is under the Start IOI button.

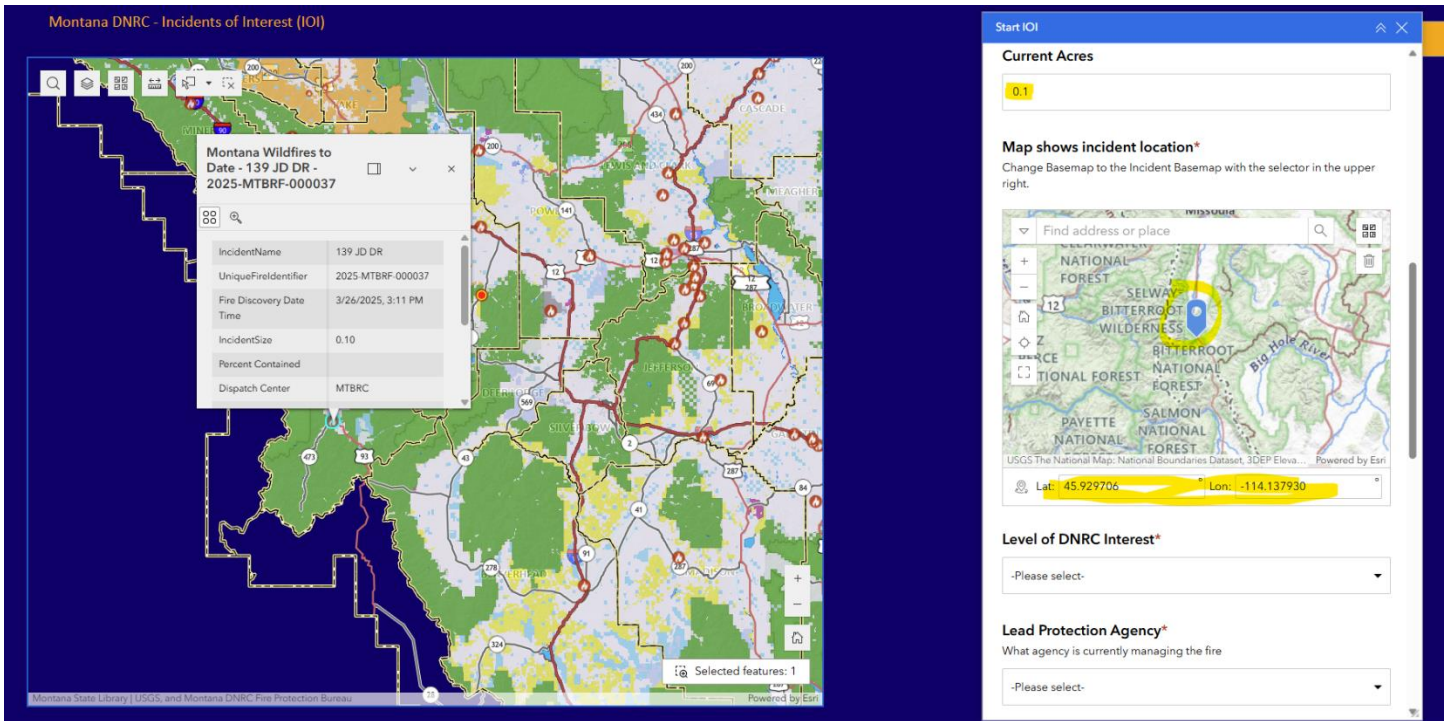
This is the beginning of the process for an IOI. If you are updating an IOI, you will need to archive the old one first and then begin the process of the new one. Archived IOIs are saved for future documentation but are removed from the map and table.

To start the process of creating or updating an IOI, ensure you have the Start IOI form open.

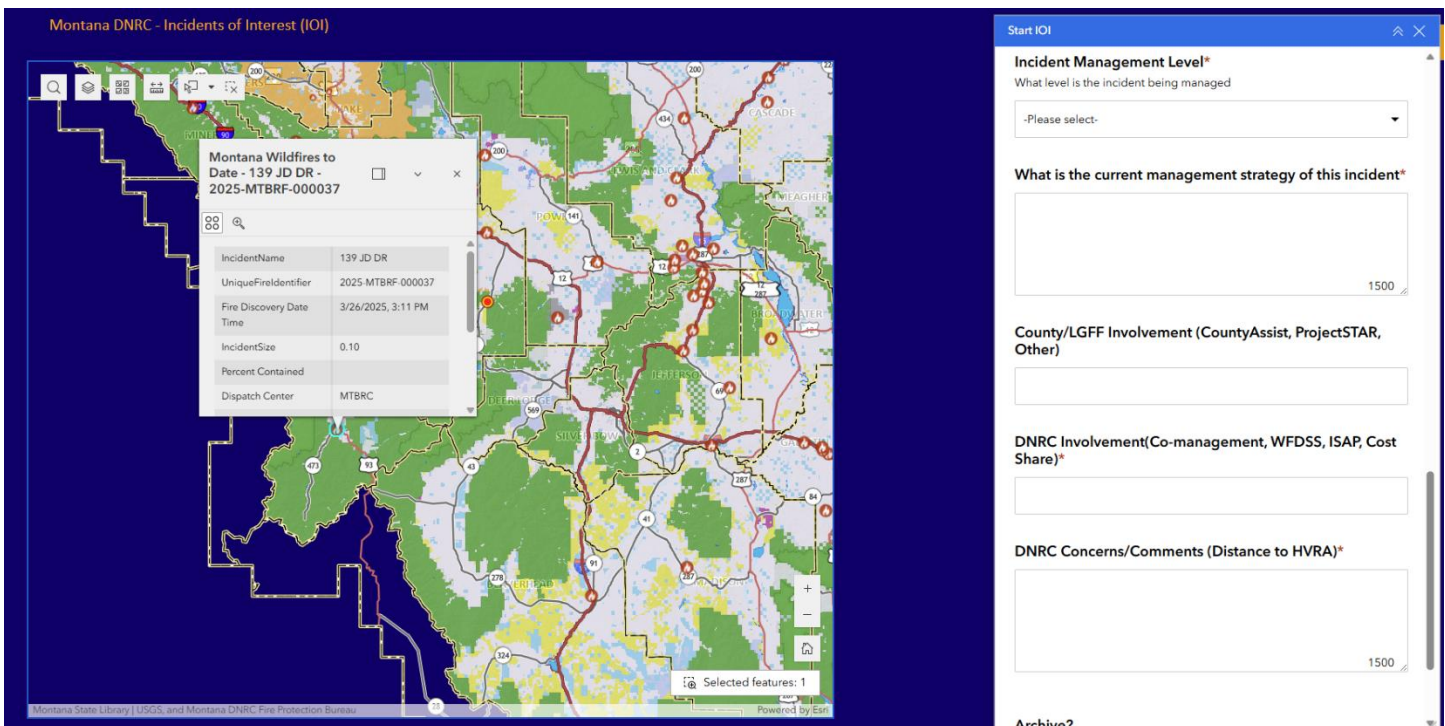
Select your Incident of Interest on the map on the left. This will pre-populate much of the form.



On the right, you will see the form started populating from the incident selected on the map. (yellow highlights). Fill in your name and select your Land Office from the dropdown. Scroll down the form.



Acres and location will update in the form automatically from the point on the map, no need to update any of those. Next select the level of DNRC Interest – Low, Moderate, High. Select the lead protection agency in the dropdown.



Select the management level of the incident in the dropdown. Write a short description of the current management strategy (1500 characters), you can utilize MSWord to write this up and check spelling and cut and past into the form. County/LGFF Involvement (if they are involved, not required field), short description – 255 characters. DNRC Involvement – short description of DNRC’s involvement – 255 characters. DNRC Concerns, why is it an IOI, 1500 characters. Utilize MSWord here as well. Archive is No at this point. When you’re happy with it, click Submit Incident.

When you are going to update an IOI, or the incident is no longer an IOI, click the Archive IOI button. This will allow you to archive the current IOI.

Select the IOI on the map, and that will bring the incident into the Archive form. Change archive to yes and it will be removed from the list. The IOI data will remain in the database for documentation should you need that in the future. Contact the Fire Bureau, Planning & Intelligence person to get the historical data if you need that. Once archived, you can start a new IOI for that incident by going back to the Start IOI process, if you are done with this particular IOI (Incident watch no longer needed) then you are done at this point.

DNRC LOI	Incident	FireID	Discovery	Current Acres	Area Office	Name	Lead Protection Agency	Incident Managemen...	Strategy	County/LGFF Involve...	DNRC Involvement	DNRC Concerns/Comm...
Medium	Picket	2025-MTSWS-256057		15	SWLO	Cory Calnan	DNRC	Initial Attack	Rapid IA		how many characters can i put in this box!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!	IA Fire will continue to monitor
Medium	Hunter Ridge	2025-MTSWS-250099	2025-04-06T16:43:00...	0.2	SWLO	Don Copple	USFS	Initial Attack	USFS has chosen to monitor fire due to fire fighter safety	None	WFDS	They should put the fire out
Medium	MR.DEAN	2025-MTRBA-000003	2025-03-19T14:32:00...	0.1	NELO	Cory Calnan	BIA	Initial Attack	Initial attack - unknown. Big column of smoke visible from Have	Yes - Bear Paw WFD responding	Monitoring in support of the county for now	No major concerns other than fire history in this area. Fires have proven difficult and highly political

The view table link will allow you to see all the IOIs in a table, each of these can be expanded.