

Rains continue to aid firefighters

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Weekend rains brought significant relief for the Linville fires.

While hot spots are still putting up smoke, both the Dobson Knob and Shortoff Mountain fires are no longer spreading. Latest reports estimate 600 acres for Dobson Knob and 1,900 acres for Shortoff Mountain. The Linville Gorge Wilderness remains closed to the public. Depending on the weather, firefighters say, the fires within the steep, rugged wilderness could smolder for the next several weeks.