

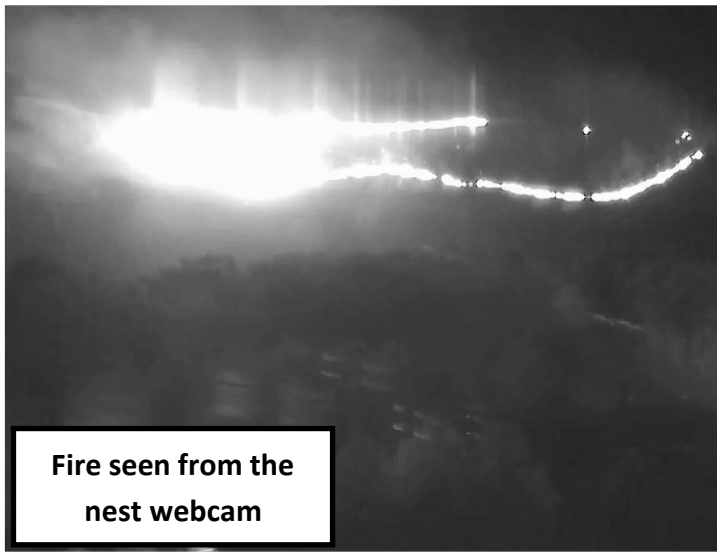
When Lightning Strikes



Thunderstorms are common in Montana and often result in forest fires. The Dunrovin web cameras have treated viewers to a front row seat for many thunderstorms and several large fires in the valley. The Lolo Peak fire in 2017 (pictured here) grew to become the largest in the nation that summer. While close, the fire did not threaten Dunrovin.



Professional photographic artist John Ashley happened to be at Dunrovin the night the Lolo Peak fire of 2017 blew up. He captured this photo of Dunrovin's horse Rocket peacefully grazing while the fire raged a couple of miles behind him. John titled this photo "Blazing Saddles."



**Fire seen from the
nest webcam**



**Fire seen from the
beach at Dunrovin**

Just after dark on September 15, 2013 lightning struck in the Sapphire Mountains immediately across the Bitterroot River from Dunrovin. It had been a hot and dry summer and the wind was roaring that day, so conditions were right for a fast-moving fire. The fire quickly spread and threatened to jump the river to put Dunrovin in its path. Dunrovin moved all the horses away and set the irrigation system to spray water over the buildings that were fully occupied with guests. About 2am, the wind calmed down and light rain began to fall, ending the emergency for Dunrovin. The next day, everyone watched via the webcams as officials used helicopters to scoop up water from the river to douse the last of the fire.

