

# Admire the magic 'dancing' pillar of fire in the rare sulfur fire

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1. How fast can a fire spread?
2. Guide 8 escape skills when there is fire in high-rise buildings

On the evening of July 7, the Worland Fire Department (WFD) in Wasahkie, Wyoming was summoned to extinguish a fire at an old recycling facility. It was a strange fire but beautiful and miraculous and extremely dangerous.

The cause of the fire is that someone launched a tape car through a sulfur-containing mound, causing it to catch fire and burn. That tailstock is what left from a waste treatment plant, operated in the 1950s. When sulfur came into contact with emissions from the motorcycle exhaust system (with temperatures between 600 and 800 degrees) C), sulfur will catch fire.

In the video, the flame of sulfur moves quickly on a bowl-shaped area, sometimes rising to a column to create an extremely beautiful but extremely dangerous scene. Smoke from this fire contains toxic gas SO<sub>2</sub> which can cause lung damage, even causing inhalers to lose their lives.



The fire of sulfur emitted from the volcano.

The extinguishment of the sulfur fire is also very messy and lengthy. We cannot spray a stream of water into the fire like regular fires because  $\text{SO}_2$  when combined with water will form  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_3$  acid, an acid related to acid rain that kills plants and fish. If the sulfur is being contained in a large vessel, the entire fire will turn into a big explosion.

The firefighting force is fully equipped with protective equipment, spraying a small amount of water and fire foam into the fire for 20 minutes to reduce the sulfur temperature to below the melting point, creating a surface coating to extinguish the fire. Sulfur fires rarely occur but are extremely dangerous, if you see this fire, call the fire department immediately to be handled promptly and carefully.

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