



West Fork Fire

Custer Gallatin National Forest

Information

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<https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/mtcgf-west-fork-fire>



August 21, 2025

West Fork Fire

Start: 08/19/2025

Cause: Under Investigation

Size: 650 acres

Containment: 0%

Location: South of Madison, just north of Beaver Creek Forest Service cabin, Hebgen Ranger District, Custer Gallatin National Forest, MT

Key Messages:

The fire does not currently pose a threat to Big Sky. All visitors and residents are advised to stay clear of the area, especially aviation operations at Hebgen Lake. Helicopters from a lend lease were used on the West Fork Fire from the Bevins fire yesterday. Firefighting aircraft may be dipping into Hebgen Lake: drones are strictly prohibited in the fire area or near Hebgen Lake, as their use can ground aircraft and jeopardize safety. A [Temporary Flight Restriction \(TFR\)](#) is in effect for the fire area.

Current Activity:

The West Fork Fire grew to the north yesterday to Lightning Lake, burning along ridge system, and is now 650 acres in size. Firefighters will continue working on constructing containment lines on the East and west flanks of the fire today.

Closures:

The Custer Gallatin National Forest announced a temporary closure of Beaver Creek Road No. 985 and several trails due to the ongoing West Fork Fire. These closures are implemented to ensure public safety as firefighters work diligently to contain the fire.

The closure order for trails and roads within the fire area, includes:

Road Closures

Forest Service Road 985 (Beaver Creek Road) in its entirety from the junction with State Highway 287 in T11S R3E NW1/4 of the NE1/4 S21 to the end of the road in T10S R3E SW1/4 of the SE1/4 S28.

Trail Closures

All or portions of Lightning Trail No. 200, Trail 201, and Sentinel Trail No. 202, Trail 158, Trail 88, Trail 206, Trail 205, Trail 222, Trail 152. See closure order for details on each.

View the Closure order on the Custer Gallatin National Forest website:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/r01/custergallatin/alerts/west-fork-fire-road-and-trail-closure-order-01-11-07-25-0-2>

Public Advisory

There is a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) in place over the fire area. The TFR is in place to provide a safe environment for firefighting aircraft operations. Using drones and flying private aircraft in the fire area can halt air operations and suppression efforts, jeopardizing the safety of all firefighting resources

Residents are encouraged to sign up for the Gallatin County Emergency Management's Community Notification System for timely updates: <https://www.readygallatin.com/public-warning/community-notification-system/>

No evacuations have been ordered at this time. Gallatin County Sheriff's Deputies have been informing campers at the campgrounds about the fire for safety awareness. The Big Sky Fire Department is actively assisting with firefighting efforts and conducting fuels mitigation work with local property owners.

Follow the incident on Inciweb: <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/mtcgf-west-fork-fire>