



## West Fork Fire

### Custer Gallatin National Forest

West Fork Fire Information Line

406-468-1904 Hours 8:00 am-8:00 pm

Email: [donald\\_davis@firenet.gov](mailto:donald_davis@firenet.gov)

**September 01, 2025**

**A very special thank you to our cooperating organizations for their ongoing support:**

Hebgen Basin Fire Department  
Big Sky Fire Department  
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks  
Campfire Lodge

### West Fork Fire

**Start:** 08/19/2025

**Cause:** Under Investigation

**Size:** 963 acres

**Containment:** 80%

**Total Personnel:** 141

**Location:** 23 miles northwest of West Yellowstone, Montana. Located in the South Madisons, 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. Visitors and residents should avoid the fire area, especially near aviation operations at Hebgen Lake. Firefighting aircraft may dip 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:

Current containment went up 5 percent as of Sunday afternoon. Crews completed saw line between Sentinel Creek Trail and Lightning Creek Trail, establishing strong containment along the south section of the fire. Bandelier Type 21A crew and Prescott Interagency Hotshot Crew worked sections of the northeastern division of the fire. Unmanned Aircraft Systems Infrared flights continue to map out hotspots. Throughout the day aviation resources focused on cargo missions to support the upcoming transition of the smokejumper crews out of the spike camp.

#### WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR:

Monday is expected to be warm and dry with maximum temperatures between 74 and 78 degrees and relative humidities between 16 and 20 percent. It is forecast to be mostly sunny with 0% chance of wetting rain. Winds will light and out of the south in the afternoon.

**CLOSURES:**

On August 20, 2025, the Custer Gallatin National Forest issued temporary closures for safety:

**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:**

A [Temporary Flight Restriction \(TFR\)](#) is in place over the fire area. No drones or private aircraft are permitted near the fire. The TFR provides 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 are in effect. Gallatin County Sheriff's deputies are monitoring the situation. The Big Sky Fire Department is assisting with firefighting efforts and home assessment work with local property owners.

For air quality and smoke information, visit [www.airnow.gov/wildfires/](http://www.airnow.gov/wildfires/).

Fire information can be found on Inciweb: <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/mtcgf-west-fork-fire>