



## 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 04, 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:** 83%

**Total Personnel:** 78

**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. Hunters, please note the trail closures and plan your hunt to avoid the fire area. 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:

The West Fork Fire welcomed a new influx of firefighting resources on Wednesday as outgoing crews transitioned off the incident. Aviation operations conducted reconnaissance flights but observed minimal heat or smoke, even with higher winds and continued warm, dry conditions. No bucket work was needed on Wednesday.

#### WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR:

Thursday will be sunny with no chance of precipitation. Maximum temperatures will be between 64 and 68 degrees with minimum relative humidities between 29 and 33 percent. Winds will be out of the north at 9 to 12 mph with gusts up to 20 mph in the valleys and 10 to 20 mph at the ridge tops.

#### 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 No. 7, 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>