



Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex

*FLATHEAD, HELENA, LEWIS & CLARK
AND LOLO NATIONAL FORESTS*

Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex

FIRE UPDATE: Thursday August 30, 2012

(See [Inciweb maps](#) for locations)

Elbow Pass Complex Spotted Bear Ranger District, Lewis and Clark National Forest. 20,227 acres. High winds prevented aerial reconnaissance yesterday. The lookouts reported seeing more fire activity with small group tree torching in the So. Fork Sun and in the Dry Fork Blackfoot. Firefighters continue to monitor fire behavior in the Basin and Danaher cabin areas.

Fire Update: Winds speeds are expected to be much lower than Wednesday however low humidities and warm temperatures combine to create critical fire conditions. The Wildland Fire Module are packing into the Ellis Creek area to improve the sprinkler system to reinforce the handline between the fuels break in the event of a run up the So. Fork. Fuels samples are being collected for modeling fire behavior. Fire managers intend to fly the fire to better map recent activity and fuels conditions within the perimeter. A helicopter mission to replace the radio batteries at the Scapegoat and Sugarloaf repeater sites needed for fire communications is also planned. Safety during all operations is our number one priority. Patrol and Prairie Reef lookouts are staffed today. <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3066/>

Wedge Creek Fire Seeley Lake Ranger District, Lolo National Forest, 1,247 acres. This fire is burning in steep terrain, heavy timber and around rock outcroppings in a remote un-roaded area about two miles south of the Scapegoat Wilderness boundary. The fire is producing a smoke column visible from highway 200. The fire is burning more actively in the Hayden Creek area. The weather for today is forecasted to be sunny, warm and dry with a high near 78. This afternoon south winds 6 to 11 mph becoming light and variable in the evening are expected and could gust as high as 20 mph. Winds continue to push the fire to the north east into the previously burned Conger Fire area that occurred in 2007 which has very sparse vegetation and will not result in any significant spread if the fire gets established in that area. The humidity are expected to drop into the low teens. No water or retardant drops were used yesterday. Due to heavy fuel loadings with intermittent bug-killed trees, steep slopes and inaccessible terrain it is unsafe to have crews on the ground. At this time, actions will continue to engage the fire in a way that will not place firefighters in danger. No private structures or property are currently threatened by the fire.

Today's Plan: Today's air quality is expected to be clearer allowing the IC a better look at the fire while doing the reconnaissance flight observing the fire. A GPS perimeter data was not collected yesterday. Actions will continue to engage the fire in a way that will not place firefighters in danger and utilize aircraft to observe and engage the fire as necessary. The Incident Commander is discussing options for area closures with District Recreation and Resource Advisors. No additional Trail Closures are expected and will most likely be created around the fire perimeter. [.Inciweb Wedge Creek](#)

East Fork Fire Lincoln Ranger District, Helena National Forest, 40 acres. Gusty, southwest winds did reach the *East Fork* fire Wednesday afternoon, which caused it to spread further eastward. There was some small group tree torching this afternoon, but it is still well within the Scapegoat Wilderness boundary and not threatening any structures at this time. The fire is burning in contiguous sub-alpine fir and dense, dead timber stands. The strategy remains to safely manage this fire for suppression within the Wilderness boundary, primarily containing the southern flank and preventing further spread to the south.

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<http://inciweb.org/incident/3203/>

Stonewall Fire Lincoln Ranger District, Helena National Forest, 12 acres. The *Stonewall Fire* did not experience any additional movement today. Crews continue working to contain the fire; it remains at 50% contained this evening. Firefighters will continue to dig fireline, mop up, grid for spots and do saw work in and along the fire perimeter <http://inciweb.org/incident/3214/>

Dart Creek Spotted Bear Ranger District, Flathead National Forest, 10 acres. New fire start located in the Big Salmon Drainage. 28 firefighters will be working on the fire today installing water pumps and hose lays. They expect to make good progress in fire suppression efforts. A helicopter is assisting with water drops.

Fools Hen Spotted Bear Ranger District, Flathead National Forest 1/2 acre. Started Tuesday (8/28); burning in snags and downed logs in the old Monture fire (2000) scar. Firefighters expect to control this fire by the end of today. Firefighters expect to have it controlled today.

Basin Fire, Spotted Bear Ranger District, Flathead National Forest 0.1 acres. Started Tuesday (8/28), mop up is complete and the was declared out yesterday at 6 p.m.

Prisoner Lake Fire Spotted Bear Ranger District, Flathead National Forest -. Last update was 8-16-12, no further updates until conditions and/or fire behavior significantly changes. Fire history and past information is at:

<http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3065/>

Falls Point Fire Seeley Lake Ranger District, Lolo National Forest, 203 Acres –As of August 16th the Falls Point Fire has been added to the Elbow Pass Complex. Elbow Pass Complex fire information: <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3067/>

Meadow Creek Fire 8/23/12 was the final update for this fire; no further updates unless fire conditions change. Fire history and past information is available from : [Inciweb Meadow Creek](#)

Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex – Trail Closures

As of August 30th, 2012

Lewis & Clark National Forest

Trail Closures for Elbow Pass Complex:

- South Fork Sun River Trail # 202 (The portion of the trail south of the South Fork Sun River Pack Bridge)
- Straight Creek Trail #212 (The portion of the trail north of Straight Creek Pass)
- Hoadley Creek trail #226
- Patrol Mountain Lookout Trail #213
- Ellis Creek Trail #227
- East Fork Ahorn Trail # 225 (The portion of the trail south of Grizzly Basin)
- Observation Pass Trail #246
- Elbow Pass Trail # 248
- Cigarette Rock Trail #247
- Green Fork Trail # 228
- Petty-Crown Trail #232
- Crown Mountain Trail #270
- Halfmoon Creek Trail #216
- Telephone Creek Trail #274

Trail closures for the Prisoner Lake fire -

- Trail # 211

Flathead National Forest

Trail Closures: for Elbow Pass Fire Complex fire

- Area Closures are still in effect, refer to Flathead Area Closure map

Trail Closures for Prisoner Lake fire

- Molly Creek Trail # 138,
- So. Fork White River Trail # 380
- Haystack Mtn Trail # 626 ---

Trail Closures for Condon Mtn fire

- Trail #29, the Smith-Little Salmon Trail

Seeley Lake Ranger District, Lolo National Forest

Trail Closures for Wedge Creek and Meadow Creek fires:

- Fenn Mountain Trail #88 -- the entire trail, beginning in T 16 N, R 12 W, Section 3.
- Conger Point Trail #468 -- the entire trail, beginning in T 17 N, R 11 W, Section 31.
- Dwight Creek Trail #414 -- from the junction with Conger Point Trail #468 to Omar Mountain T 17 N, R 12 W, Section 14.
- Conger Creek Trail #403 -- from the junction with Conger Point Trail #468 T 17 N, R12 W, Sec. 23 to the junction with Canyon Point Trail #1437 T17 N, R 11 W, Sec. 29.

Lolo National Forest:

Description of Closed Areas:

From the North Fork Cabin, T 17 N, R 10 W, Sec. 29, northwest along the Dry Fork trail #31, but not including the Dry Fork trail #31, to the junction with Canyon-Falls Creek trail #16; thence southwest along the Falls-Canyon Trail #16, but not including the Falls-Canyon trail #16 to the Scapegoat Wilderness boundary in T 17 N, R 11 W, Sec. 28; thence north and west along the Scapegoat Wilderness boundary through Canyon Point and Omar Mountain to the boundary with the Flathead National Forest, Spotted Bear Ranger District; thence northeast along the Forest boundary through Danaher Mountain and Concord Mountain to Triple Divide; thence southeast along the Continental Divide through Flint Mountain and Scapegoat Mountain to the junction of Cave Creek trail #1217; thence west and south along the Cave Creek trail #1217, but not including the Cave Creek trail #1217, to the junction with the Hobnail Tom trail #32; thence south along the Hobnail Tom trail #32, but not including the Hobnail Tom trail #32, southwest to the junction with the Cooney Creek trail #406; thence southeast along the Cooney Creek trail #406, and including the Cooney Creek trail #406 to the boundary with the Helena National Forest, Lincoln Ranger District; thence south and west along the Forest boundary through Olson Peak and Galusha Peak to the junction with the East Fork trail #481 in T 17 N, R 10 W, Sec. 27; thence northwest along the East Fork trail #481, and including the East Fork trail #481 to the junction with the Hobnail Tom trail #32; thence west along the Hobnail Tom trail #32 to the junction with the North Fork Cabin.

Helena National Forest

Trail Closures for East Fork fire:

- Arrastra/Porcupine Basin Trail #484: entire trail
- Trail #448: entire trail
- Dry Creek/Meadow Creek Trail #483: from beginning in T15N, R10W, Sec 17 to southern shore of Meadow Lake trail in T16N, R9W, Sec 18.