



# EAST FORK FIRE

## FIRE INFORMATION FACT SHEET

**Date:** September 4, 2012

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.

**Information Officer:** Kathy Bushnell, 406-422-7164

**Incident:** East Fork Fire

**Detected/Reported:** August 22, 2012

**Cause:** Lightning

**Origin:** T16N, R10W, Section 36 on the Helena National Forest-Lincoln Ranger District

**Incident Commander:** Beau Macy

**Approximate Size:** 1,123 acres

### Fire Update:

There was not much fire growth yesterday on the East Fork Fire; however there was activity within the perimeter of the fire with some single and group tree torching. The fire continues to burn in contiguous sub-alpine fir—a fuel type that is known for prolific spotting—and dense, dead timber.

The 1-1/2 acre spot fire that is located outside of the Wilderness boundary in the head of the Copper Creek drainage, is contained and firefighters will continue to mop-up the spot fire and grid for other spots outside of the Scapegoat Wilderness. There are other spot fires, located in the upper end of the Sourdough Creek drainage within the Wilderness boundary, that are at the head of the main East Fork fire where it remains the most active and least safe to place on-the-ground firefighters, at this time.

Fire personnel will monitor the main fire throughout the day, but for safety purposes there will be no direct attack on the fireline of the main East Fork fire. The strategy remains to manage this fire for suppression within the Wilderness boundary, primarily containing the southern flank and preventing spread to the south.

Due to the weather, wind and fuel conditions, it is East Fork Fire will remain active and could spread further to the east within the Wilderness boundary. The smoke is still visible to the surrounding areas; however, it is not threatening any structures. The trail closures remain in effect for public safety reasons.

**Closures:** Below is a list of current trails closures due to the East Fork Fire activity:

- **Arrastra/Porcupine Basin Trails #482 & #488:** entire trail of both beginning in T15N R10W Section 25 & T15N R10W Section 23
- **Dry Creek/Meadow Cr Trail #483:** from the beginning in T15N R10W Section 17 to junction of Mainline Trail #481 in T16N R9W Section 8
- **Bugle Meadow Cut-across Trail #480:** entire trail beginning at Meadow Lake T16N R9W Sec. 18 and ending in T16N R10W Section 1
- **Sourdough Trail #427:** entire trail beginning in T16N R9W Section 8 at the junction of Mainline Trail #481

**Fire danger level:** High

**More information:** Visit Inciweb at [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org) or call Kathy Bushnell at 406-422-7164