



Hog Trough Fire July 23, 2022 Update



[Inciweb.nwcg.gov](https://inciweb.nwcg.gov)

<p>Acres: 557 acres Start Date: July 17th, 2022 Cause: Lightning Origin Location: 17 miles East of Hamilton</p>	<p>Percent Contained: 9% Jurisdiction: Bitterroot National Forest and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Website: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8258/ Fire Information: 406-880-8090</p>
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Forest Service 75 (Skalkaho-Rye) Road is currently closed from the junction of Highway 38 (Skalkaho Highway) to Mile Marker 5 near Skalkaho Creek, Jerry Lake Trailhead #503. An Area Closure is in effect for roads, trails, and areas in the Pintler Ranger District of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. Forest Service 5070 (Sand Basin Creek) Road is closed currently.

Summary: The Hog Trough fire is now at 557 acres, a 34 acre increase from yesterday. It is burning in the Sapphire Wilderness Study Area (WSA) on both the Bitterroot and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests. No structures are currently threatened, and no evacuations are in place. Area, trail and road closures are in effect.

Planned Actions: Helicopters will be providing water drops on the east end of the fire to slow down the fire’s progression. Heavy equipment and hand crews will continue working along FS 75 Road and FS 5070 Road, clearing vegetation to prepare it as a containment line. Fire manager’s objective is to keep the fire south of Highway 38, east of FS 75 Road, and west of FS 5070 Road. This will provide a safe location for firefighters to implement direct suppression strategies. A [Temporary Flight Restriction \(TFR\)](#) is in place over the fire area.

Fire Activity: The fire will continue to spread in heavy dead and down continuous fuel from past burns. Fire activity will be moderate with single and group tree torching and spreading through short grass. The fire is continuing to progress towards the east in the direction of the 2005 Signal Rock Fire and the FS 5070 Road. The fire is running parallel with the wind and is making short, uphill runs.

Closures: See [Inciweb](#) for specific closure information.

- FS Road 75, From Junction 38 and FS 75 to Mile Marker 5 (Skalkaho Creek-Jerry Lake Trailhead #503).
- FS Road 5070 Closed.
- Railroad Creek, National Forest System Trail #77 to Trail#313 at the gate
- Weasel Creek, National Forest System Trail #156 from milepost 0.00 at its junction with NFSR #461.
- A section of the Bitterroot Rock Creek Divide Trail #313, National Forest System Trail #313 where it intersects Trail #77 Railroad Creek, Weasel Creek Trail #156
- Skalkaho Creek -Jerry Lake Trail #503, National Forest System Trail #503

Terrain: The fire’s location is in extremely remote, rugged, and inaccessible terrain. Heavy deadfall is present with dead standing trees (snags), downed timber and short grass (1 foot tall). Due to the significant safety threats and inaccessibility, firefighters currently are not directly engaging the fire on the ground. Fire manager’s top priority is ensuring firefighter and public safety.