



Hog Trough Fire July 22, 2022 Update



Acres: 523 acres Start Date: July 17 th , 2022 Cause: Lightning Origin Location: 17 mi East of Hamilton	Percent Contained: 9% Jurisdiction: Bitterroot National Forest and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Website: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8258/ Fire Information: 406-880-8090
---	--

Summary: 75 Road closed from junction Highway 38 to Mile Marker 5 on the 75 Road near Skalkaho Creek Trailhead. Due to hot, dry and windy conditions a Red Flag Warning is in effect today, Friday 7/22/22 from 12:00 PM to 9:00 PM. The Hog Trough fire is now at 523, a 23 acre increase from yesterday, 7/21/22. It is burning in the Sapphire Wilderness Study Area (WSA) on both the Bitterroot and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests. People within the Bitterroot Valley may continue to see smoke from this fire. No structures currently threatened and no evacuations in place. Area, trail and road closures are in effect.

Planned Actions: Two Type 1 and two Type 2 helicopters will be providing water drops on the east and west end of the fire to slow down the fire's progression. Crews will be working along the 75 Road and 5071 Road to selectively remove vegetation and prepare it as a containment line. Fire manager's objective is to keep the fire to the south of Highway 38, east of 75 Road and west of 5071 Road. This will provide a safe location for firefighters to implement direct suppression strategies. A [Temporary Flight Restriction \(TFR\)](#) is in place from mean sea level to 11,000 feet within a 5-mile radius of the fire.

Fire Activity: Fires will continue to spread in heavy dead and down continuous fuel from past burns. Fire activity may pick early afternoon with increasing winds. The fire is continuing to progress towards the east in the direction of the 2005 Signal Rock Fire and the 5071 Road. Single and group tree torching has been observed. The fire is running parallel with the wind and there are areas where the fire is terrain driven making short, uphill runs.

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

Road 75, From Junction 38 and 75 to Mile Marker 5 (Skalkaho Creek Trailhead).

Road 5071, Sand Basin Creek.

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 are not directly engaging the fire on the ground currently. Fire manager's top priority is ensuring firefighter and public safety.

Weather: A Red Flag Warning is in effect for Friday. Temperatures forecasted to be 73-78 degrees Fahrenheit. Relative humidity values will be between 19-24%. Winds forecasted from the west at 9-18 MPH to 25 MPH in the afternoon.

###

