



Smoke Outlook

Flathead Valley - Ridge, River Road East, Big Knife, and Additional Fires

8/22 - 8/23

Issued by [Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program](#) on August 22, 2023 at 07:31 AM MDT

Fire

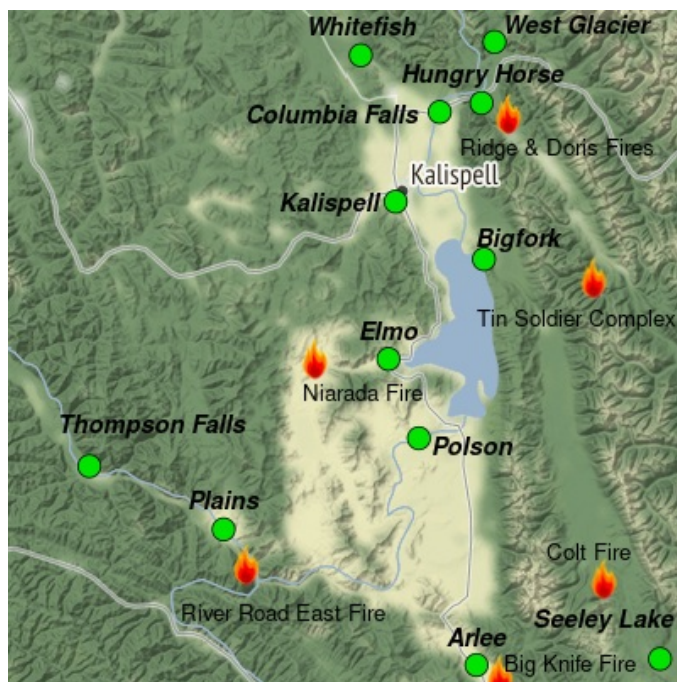
Little fire growth is expected today due to the widespread rain. Crews are making consistent progress towards completing objectives. See inciweb.wildfire.gov for updates on specific fires.

Smoke

Expect GOOD conditions across the area Tuesday morning. Remaining GOOD South and East of Flathead Lake. MODERATE conditions *may* return by evening to Thompson Falls, Plains, and the Kalispell area. Very little wind is in the forecast early on Tuesday, but by evening a breeze from the west may bring increased smoke to NW Montana. A large amount of smoke was created by large wildfires in Washington, Idaho and British Columbia over the last week, much of it still lingering to our West.

Additional Information

It is peak fire season, and it is advisable to stay vigilant to air quality in your area. Smoke can travel for long distances, and your town may be impacted at times from fires hundreds of miles away. Please consult your health care provider if you are experiencing any smoke-related health impacts.



Daily AQI Forecast* for Tuesday

Station	Yesterday hourly	Mon 8/21	Comment for Today -- Tue, Aug 22	Forecast*	Tue 8/22	Wed 8/23
	6a noon 6p					
Seeley Lake			GOOD air quality today and tomorrow			
Arlee			GOOD conditions today and tomorrow.			
Kalispell	No hourly data		GOOD air quality Tuesday; light smoke returning Wednesday.			
Bigfork	No hourly data		Expect GOOD air quality today and tomorrow.			
Elmo	No hourly data		GOOD conditions Tuesday, may see MODERATE by Wednesday.			
Polson /Pablo	No hourly data		GOOD conditions today and tomorrow.			
Whitefish	No hourly data		GOOD air quality, likely becoming MODERATE by Wednesday.			
Plains	No hourly data		GOOD conditions, some periods of MODERATE.			
Thompson Falls			Overall GOOD conditions Tuesday, light smoke may drift in by evening.			
Columbia Falls			GOOD air quality Tuesday; light smoke returning Wednesday			
West Glacier	No hourly data		Expect GOOD air quality today and tomorrow.			
Hungry Horse			GOOD conditions Tuesday.			

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Air Quality Index (AQI)	Actions to Protect Yourself
Good	None
Moderate	Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion.
USG	People within Sensitive Groups* should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.
Unhealthy	People within Sensitive Groups* should avoid all physical outdoor activity.
Very Unhealthy	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
Hazardous	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity.

***Disclaimer:** This forecast is based on fine particulates only; ozone is not included. Forecasts may be wrong; use at own risk. Use caution as conditions can change quickly. See your health professional as needed. Smoke sensitive groups should take appropriate precautions.

Additional Links

[Fire and Smoke Map real time air quality info](#) -- <https://fire.airnow.gov>

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Issued by Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program -- www.wildlandfiresmoke.net

Flathead Valley Updates -- <https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook/78e08155>

*Smoke and Health Info -- www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health