



NEVADA TEAM 3  
INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM

INCIDENT COMMANDER: ANDY BERTELSON

# Bowles Creek Fire

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest and Bitterroot National Forest

Fire Information: 406-426-9130

Email: [2023.bowlescreek@firenet.gov](mailto:2023.bowlescreek@firenet.gov)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Bowles-Creek-Fire-Information>

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/mtbdf-bowles-creek>

August 27, 2023

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**Location:** 27 miles southwest of Philipsburg, Montana

**Start Date:** 7/20/2023    **Cause:** Lightning    **Size:** 6,988 acres    **Completion:** 23%

**Total Personnel:** 160    **Engines:** 4    **Helicopters:** 2    **Hand Crews:** 4

**The Nevada Team 3 Incident Management Team is managing the Bowles Creek Fire.**

**The Bowles Creek Fire is currently at 6,988 acres. Fire crews remain present along Hwy 38, Skalkaho Road. With increased weekend traffic, motorists should yield and be cautious of firefighters who are present along the roadway. Additionally, motorists should be aware of debris on the road, as increased wind events and precipitation has increased the potential for falling trees.**

## CURRENT SITUATION & PLANNED ACTIONS

Completion of fire management objectives remains at 23%. Fire personnel continue to work on confinement and point zone protection to protect values at risk. Structure protection assessments are completed; however, fire personnel are present to mitigate any future fire risk. Firefighters continue to construct fuel breaks and monitor fire behavior and improve fireline as needed.

## WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Today will be partly cloudy with a 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Temperatures throughout the day will remain between 71 and 76. Low fire behavior and activity is expected with no containment concerns.

## CLOSURES

The Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest and Bitterroot National Forest issued an emergency closure of roads and trails (Closure #02-08-23-19) effective July 25, 2023. This Order is for public and firefighter safety during fire suppression efforts of the Bowles Creek Fire. For a complete listing of the closed roads and trails, visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/bdnf/alerts-notice/?aid=81818>. Closure information and maps are also posted on the Forests' website and the fire's Inciweb page. Those recreating or traveling in the fire area are encouraged to be aware of the situation and to pay attention to increased fire traffic. A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) is in effect over the fire area for the safety of the aviation resources.

Reassessment of closure areas occurs on a regular basis. Temporary closures are implemented during wildfire events to protect working firefighters and outdoor enthusiasts recreating in the area. Once fire officials determine the area is safe to reopen, closure orders will be adjusted.