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

Issued by Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program on August 28, 2023 at 07:22 AM MDT

Fire

Warm dry conditions may lead to slightly increased fire activity, but high winds are not expected, so significant fire growth is unlikely. The Doris fire and the East Fork fire produced a little bit of smoke yesterday. The Ridge, River Road East, Big Knife and Tin Soldier complex were all mostly quiet yesterday, and likely will remain that way Monday.

Smoke

Haze and light smoke will continue for Monday and much of Tuesday. Significant smoke production is not likely for any of the fires in NW Montana, but there is plenty of smoke generally in the Western US and Canada right now.

Conditions will improve to very clear air by Tuesday night / Wednesday morning, following the passage of a cold front.



Daily AQI Forecast* for Monday

	Yesterday	Sun	Forecast*	Mon	Tue
Station	hourly	8/27	Comment for Today Mon, Aug 28	8/28	8/29
	6a noon 6p				_
Kalispell	No hourly data		MODERATE conditions today.		
Bigfork	No hourly data		Air will remain hazy today.		
West Glacier	No hourly data		MODERATE conditions today.		
Polson /Pablo	No hourly data		Continued haze.		
Whitefish	No hourly data		Continued haze.		
Thompson Falls			GOOD air quality today.		
Plains	No hourly data		GOOD air quality today.		
Hungry Horse	No hourly data		Continued haze.		
Columbia Falls			Continued haze.		
Seeley Lake			GOOD air quality today.		
Arlee			Haze continuing Monday.		

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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

