



Smoke Outlook

Central Montana Horse Gulch Fire

7/13 - 7/14

Issued by Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program on July 13, 2024 at 07:14 AM MDT

Special Statement

...Red Flag Warning for gusty winds and very low humidity today from 2 PM until Midnight...

Fire

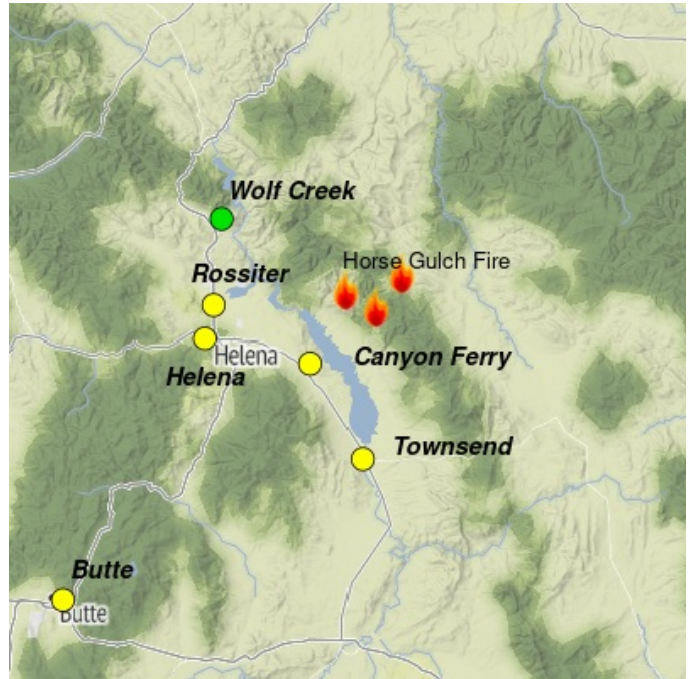
The Horse Gulch fire grew to 11,511 acres late Friday with no containment. The Northern Rockies CIMT Team 2 assumes control of the fire today. Weather and dry environmental conditions will favor growth of the fire within the forest through the weekend, however somewhat lighter winds are forecast during Sunday.

Smoke

Forecast winds from late morning onward will push the majority of smoke east into the high wilderness areas of the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest. Good to Moderate AQ is expected west of Canyon Ferry Lake toward Helena. Lower AQ is likely mainly east of Canyon Ferry and into the higher wilderness eastward, immediately downstream of the fire. After dusk, smoke will settle into local drainages including S-284, Canyon Ferry Lake and perhaps Hwy 12 toward east Helena.

Roadway Visibility

Localized smoke conditions can bring reduced visibility along S-284 to the Canyon Ferry Lake south of the fire overnight and in the early morning.



Daily AQI Forecast* for Saturday

Station	Yesterday			Fri 7/12	Comment for Today -- Sat, Jul 13	Forecast*	
	6a	noon	6p			Sat 7/13	Sun 7/14
Wolf Creek					GOOD AQ with MODERATE in afternoon and evening this weekend		
Butte					Regional Smoke and Haze will reduce Air Quality somewhat		
Helena	No hourly data				Periods of smoke around Helena into next week		
Canyon Ferry	No hourly data				Light to Moderate Smoke in the lake area this weekend		
Townsend	No hourly data				Reduced AQ due to wildfire smoke and regional haze into next week		
Rossiter Pump House					Some smoke impacts along with regional haze into next week		

Issued Jul 13, 2024 by John Pendergrast, ARA pendergrast01@gmail.com

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

Montana Department of Environmental Quality -- <https://deq.mt.gov/air/index>
National Fire and Smoke Map (AIRNOW) -- <https://fire.airnow.gov/>

Montana Department of Transportation -- <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/travinfo/>
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Issued by Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program -- www.wildlandfiresmoke.net
Central Montana Updates -- <https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook/a680e2fc>
*Smoke and Health Info -- www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health