



Smoke Outlook

Central Montana Horse Gulch Fire

7/18 - 7/19

Issued by Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program on July 18, 2024 at 06:59 AM MDT

Special Statement

A Few Storms Possible with Lightning and Gusty Winds

Fire

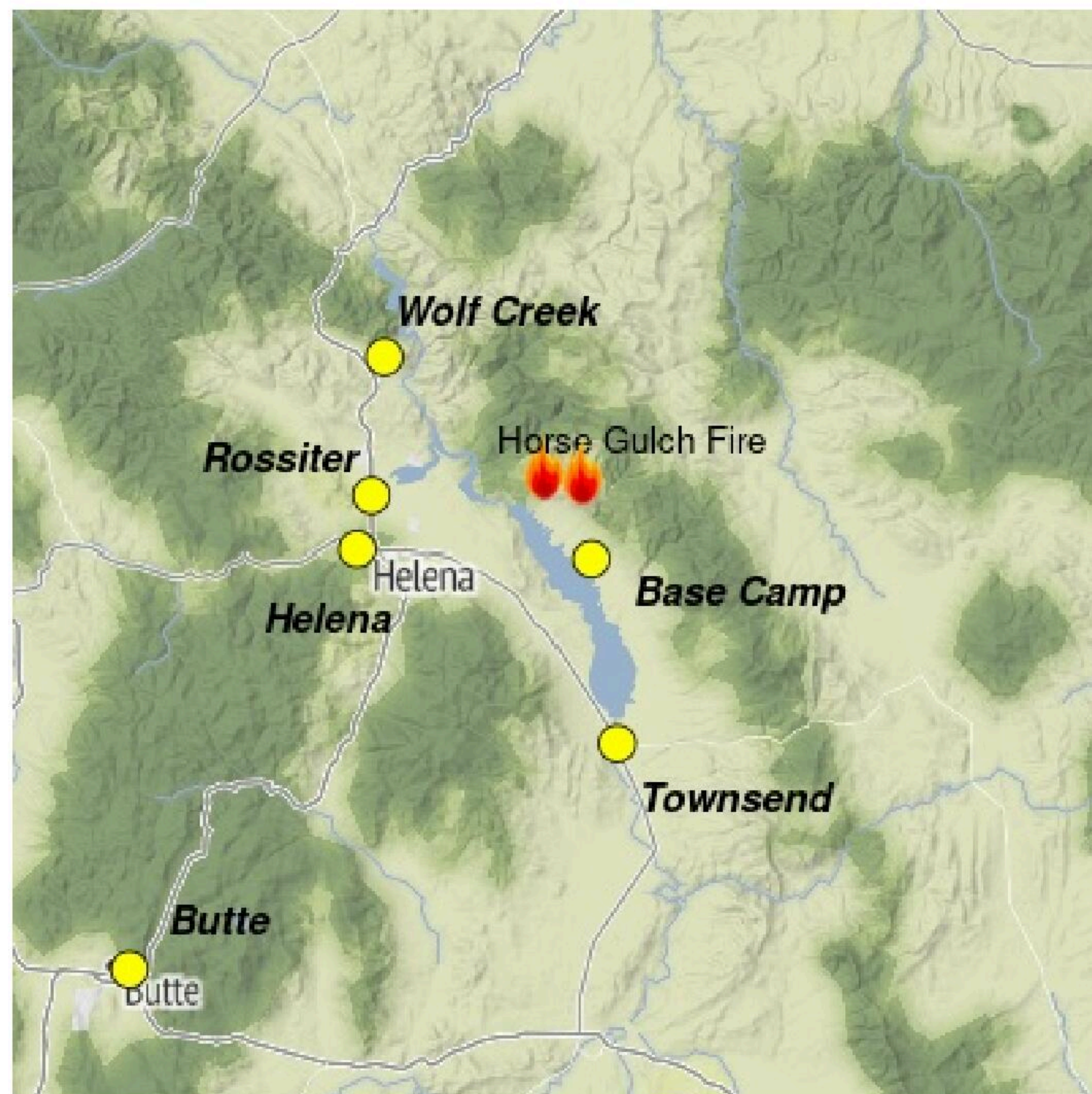
The Horse Gulch fire showed some growth on the north side Wednesday afternoon due to a combination of natural and selected tactical firing. Some burning and smoldering within the interior will produce additional smoke.

Smoke

With light winds, MODERATE with periods of USG is forecast along the north side of Canyon Ferry Lake through the afternoon. Elsewhere MODERATE air quality is forecast from around Helena to East Helena and the southern portion of Canyon Ferry Lake into late afternoon. After dusk, smoke will settle into local drainages once again. MODERATE AQ continues across much of southern Montana due to ongoing regional fires.

Roadway Visibility

Reduced visibility along S-284 to the Canyon Ferry Lake south of the fire overnight and in the early morning. Visibilities should remain one mile or greater however along S-284 and Canyon Ferry Road in the north portion of the Canyon Ferry Lake up to York.



Daily AQI Forecast* for Thursday

Station	Yesterday			Wed 7/17	Comment for Today -- Thu, Jul 18	Forecast*	
	hourly					Thu 7/18	Fri 7/19
Base Camp	6a	noon	6p		Moderate to Brief USG AQ Today and tonight		
Townsend					Light Smoke to continue into Weekend		
Wolf Creek					MODERATE AQ continuing through early evening		
Butte					Regional Smoke and Haze will reduce Air Quality somewhat		
Rossiter Pump House					Some smoke impacts along with regional haze continuing		
Helena	No hourly data				MODERATE AQ to continue into weekend		

Issued Jul 18, 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