

Railroad-Daly Fires



Bitterroot National Forest

Fire Information 406-403-7971 2024.dalyrailroad@firenet.gov

https://linktr.ee/sharrottjohnsondalyrailroad

September 11, 2024

Northern Rockies Team 5, Incident Commander Joe Sampson

Location: Railroad Creek/ Skalkaho Creek confluence, 26 miles southeast of Hamilton

Start Date: 7/25/2024 **Cause:** Undetermined

Daly Fire Acres: 6,721 Completion: 6% Railroad Fire Acres: 939 Completion: 4%

Total Personnel: 39

CURRENT STATUS

The Daly Fire advanced moderately northeastward along Stony Creek in Ravalli and Granite counties. Firefighters continued assessing the eastern flank in the Gem Mountain and Rock Creek areas. Resources including heavy equipment and water tenders have been positioned to protect the values at risk north and east of the fire.

The Railroad Fire experienced moderate growth to the east however, with low vegetation and continuous rock scree overall fire behavior remains limited.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Warm and dry conditions will continue through the morning with temperatures reaching the low 70's. Fire activity will be less than previous days, but torching and short-range spotting could continue. Thunderstorms are likely to arrive in early afternoon bringing erratic wind gusts of up to 35 mph and the possibility of pea-sized hail. Precipitation may bring enough moisture to limit fire behavior with creeping expected to continue in heavy fuels. Flash flooding and debris flow is a potential concern as storms move in.

EVACUATIONS, RESTRICTIONS, CLOSURES

The Skalkaho Highway (Highway 38) is closed from Black Bear Campground to the Crystal Creek Campground on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF side. This location has the potential to change, given the amount of recent fire activity. The temporary flight restriction (TFR) on the Railroad-Daly fire has expanded both north and south. Gird Point Lookout is also closed. The Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness in the Bitterroot National Forest is currently in **Stage I Fire restrictions**.

