



Johnson, Sharrott Creek, Daly, and Railroad Fires

Bitterroot National Forest

September 20, 2024



Today will be the FINAL UPDATE from Northern Rockies Complex Incident Management Team 5. The team will transfer command of all fires back to the Bitterroot National Forest on September 20, 2024 at 6 p.m.

NEW PHONE NUMBER for fire information: 406-499-2997.

CHANGES TO CLOSURES

- The Johnson Fire Area and the Railroad-Daly Fire Area Closures will be terminated on Friday, September 20th at 8 a.m.
- The Sharrott Creek Fire Area closure is still in effect but was reduced in size, effective September 18th.
- The Skalkaho Highway (Highway 38) road closure will be modified on September 20th at 7 a.m. and will now be closed from milepost 14.5 to 21.4.
- Forest Service Road 75 (Skalkaho Rye) will be open.
- Forest Service Road 711 is open; however, you cannot get to Hwy 38 from Road 711.

Visit Montana DOT for the most updated information: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/>. More information on Bitterroot National Forest area closures can be found at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/bitterroot/alerts-notice>

Fire	Cause	Size	Completion	Phone #	Personnel
Johnson	Lightning	6,687	59%	406-401-0286	14
Sharrott Creek	Lightning	3,204	83%	406-403-7976	137
Daly	Undetermined	6,816	59%	406-403-7971	20
Railroad	Undetermined	1,007	35%	406-403-7971	(shared with Daly)

CURRENT STATUS

Excavators continue to work on the west and north flanks of the Johnson Fire and are on schedule to complete suppression repair efforts by the end of the weekend. On the Sharrott Creek Fire, excavators continue to pull back berms on constructed firelines. Chippers have completed their work, demobilizing and returning home. Suppression repair work, where necessary, continues on Daly and Railroad Fires.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Drier and milder conditions will continue over the next few days. Temperatures will rise into the high 60s in the valley and high 50s at the higher elevations. Minimum relative humidity will be around 40% with mostly sunny skies. Southwest winds will be sustained around 10-15 mph with gusts up to 25-30 mph.

Fire behavior will be isolated smoldering, primarily in stump holes. Large heavy fuels are saturated and no longer support burning or combustion.

