



US Forest Service
Custer Gallatin National Forest



Gallatin County
MONTANA



The Montana Department of
**Natural Resources
& Conservation**



Phone: 406-219-7052

9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.



Email:

2020.bridgerfoothills@firenet.gov



Web:

inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7144



**Custer Gallatin National Forest
Gallatin County Sheriff's Office
Gallatin County Emergency Management**

Fire Stats:

Location: 3 mi NE of Bozeman,
MT

Start Date: September 4

Size: 8,224

Percent Contained: 83%

Cause: Lightning

Total Personnel: 28

Engines: 4

Helicopters: 1

Water Tender: 0

Structure Assessment Group

Bridger Foothills Fire started on an extremely dry and windy Friday prior to Labor Day. Initial attack resources responded in force, but given weather and fuel conditions the fire quickly spread. A frontal passage Saturday, September 5 pushed the fire to over 7,000 acres. The fire has shown minimal growth in recent days & suppression repair continues.

BRIDGER FOOTHILLS FIRE

September 25, 2020

Incident Commander Bob Culbreth, IC(T) Caleb Schreiber

CURRENT STATUS

High gusty winds are expected through Friday evening. Crews continue to monitor the fire perimeter for hotspots, and improve portions of contingency line. Additionally, crews continue to improve conditions along sections of road and trails and begin suppression repair. Structure assessments are complete, totaling 450 structures evaluated. A virtual community meeting will be hosted tonight, Friday the 25th at 7pm via Custer Gallatin NF Facebook Live and also through DNRC Zoom platform. This will be the final virtual community meeting.

WEATHER / FIRE BEHAVIOR

Strong wind will continue throughout Friday, with gusts up to 30mph during the day and reaching 40mph by the evening. A weather system will move into the area Friday evening, bringing potential for scattered showers through Saturday morning. Cooler temperatures will persist through the weekend with moderate relative humidity recovery occurring. Fire behavior remains low, no expected growth today, but due to high winds new ignitions may cause an increase in activity.

CLOSURES

The Forest's area closure includes roads and trails within National Forest System lands south of the Bridger Bowl Ski Area and east of the Bridger Ridge Trail #513, including Pine Creek Trail #538. Popular trails such as Sypes, Middle Cottonwood, Truman Gulch, Bridger Ridge Trail and access to the "M" are now open for recreational use. Please use extreme caution when entering areas within the burn zone and continue to respect the fire closure boundary. Bridger Canyon Road is open to the public. Travelers should SLOW DOWN and watch for fire traffic.

SAFETY MESSAGE

Wind conditions are expected to remain high today. Strong winds can cause fire damaged trees to fall over. Be cautious when recreating in a burn zone, stay on the trail, and try to move through the area as quickly as possible to avoid exposure to hazards.