

# Fire Information

## Yellowstone National Park Fires

September 1, 2016 10:00 am

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yellowstone National Park



## Red Flag Warning Extended Through Saturday

### Today's Key Points

- Critical fire weather continues today - higher winds and possible dry thunderstorms may bring lightning and erratic winds this afternoon.
- A community meeting will be held tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the LDS church, 245 Faithful Street, West Yellowstone, MT.
- Maple Fire activity was relatively quiet overall yesterday.
- East of Seven Mile Bridge along the Madison River firefighters will evaluate and fell root weakened trees and snags as a result of Maple Fire burnout operations along the road.
- Expect delays between West Yellowstone and Madison Junction with one lane traffic where firefighters are working or smoke is present.
- The 125 acre fuel reduction project in the southwest corner of the Maple Fire east of Boundary Street and north of the west entrance of Yellowstone National Park is nearing completion.
- The Buffalo Fire burned actively into the late night. Firefighters worked to suppress hot spots in the Slough Creek campground.
- On the Fawn Fire, the spot fire on the south side of the drainage doubled in size and spotted back across to the north side of the drainage.
- The Central Fire grew slightly to the west yesterday.
- Expect very unhealthy smoke conditions in West Yellowstone this morning; clearing to good by mid-afternoon. Hazardous conditions in Duck Creek area through morning, clearing between mid-afternoon and early evening. Mammoth will see air quality worsen by mid-afternoon, persisting into late evening.
- Stage 2 fire restrictions go into effect at Yellowstone National Park today at 12 p.m. today. Visit the links below for details.

### What's Open:

- **All entrances to Yellowstone are open.**
- Park visitor facilities, including park concession-operated services, and businesses in surrounding communities remain open.
- The Bakers Hole area of the Madison River is open.

### What's Closed:

- The Slough Creek area, including the day use and campground are closed due to the Buffalo Fire.
- The Mary Mountain Trail is closed for visitor use due to the Central Fire.
- Visit the links below for the full list and maps of current backcountry campsite, trail, and road closures.

**Maple Fire: 38,004 acres** (approximately 1,285 acre increase)

Location: approx. 3.56 mi NE of West Yellowstone (Intersection of US HWY 20 & 287), 3.57 mi SW of Mount Holmes Lookout, 1.78 mi from Madison Junction

Fire managers continue to use night shifts to patrol and monitor fire activity from Seven Mile Bridge around the west boundary north to the Duck Creek subdivision area. Fire managers have been evaluating control line opportunities in the northwest corner of the park in order to deter fire spread to the west towards Highway 191. Fuel reduction efforts and control lines are being improved to allow crews to directly engage the fire in this area to protect private property. Fire crews completed handline from Gneiss Creek north to a ridgetop east of Campanula Creek. A large type 1 Chinook helicopter, a smaller type 2 helicopter, and two water scooping airplanes called Fire Bosses are being used as needed to limit fire spread to the west. Fire crews continue to work on the fuels reduction projects on the western boundary of the park to help reduce the risk of wildfire spread into the vicinity of West Yellowstone and the Duck Creek subdivisions.

The fire remains on the north side of the Madison River. Park visitors may safely view the Maple Fire at designated areas between the West Entrance and Madison Junction where the fire has burned down to the road, just east of Seven Mile Bridge. Fire information personnel will be available to answer questions. Fire managers may continue small burnout operations as opportunities present themselves in the Seven Mile Bridge. The operations provide a clean fire edge that reduces spotting, flanking, and other control issues. They also provide an anchor point for crews along the southern flank to hold the fire north of the Madison River (west of Seven Mile Bridge).

**Buffalo Fire: 4,524 acres** (approximately 82 acre increase)

Location: approximately 3 mi NE of Tower Junction and 2.25 mi S of the park boundary

The alignment of terrain, fuels and wind will continue to allow for active fire behavior on the Buffalo Fire. The Buffalo Fire is visible from Lamar Valley.

**Fawn Fire: 2,129 acres** (approximately 56 acre increase)

Location: W of Fawn Pass, approximately 8 mi W of Mammoth Hot Springs, 19 mi NE of West Yellowstone, 13 mi SW of Gardiner, and 28 mi SE of Big Sky

Firefighters continue to monitor fire behavior and protect the Fawn Pass cabin.

**Central Fire: 1,193 acres** (approximately 150 acre increase)

Location: a remote area, approximately 8.5 mi W of Lake developed area and 2 mi S of Hayden Valley

The fire continues to back into the wind to the west where it is burning in an area that burned in 1988. Where the fire has burned into Hayden Valley to the northeast, the grasses are not carrying fire. There has been limited growth on the southwest side of the fire. An area that burned during the 2015 Spruce Fire is limiting its spread to the southeast. The smoke column is expected to be visible from Hayden Valley, Fishing Bridge and Mammoth.

**Park Fire Information:** <http://go.nps.gov/YellowstoneFire>

**Inciweb:** <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/unit/5382/>

**Fire Information:** 307-344-7102, [ynpfires2016@gmail.com](mailto:ynpfires2016@gmail.com)

**Year-Round Yellowstone Road Conditions:** 307-344-2117



Air Quality



Fire Info



InciWeb