



# Blodgett/Mill Lake Fire Information

Phone: 406-426-9612 daily from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Email: 2022.blodgettlake@firenet.gov

Date: September 22, 2022

Doug Turman, Incident Commander

Contact Information: Phone: 406-426-9612 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Email: 2022.blodgettlake@firenet.gov

Start Date: 8/29/2022

Cause: Lightning

Total Personnel: 175

Engines: 1

Helicopters: 1

Completed: 51%

Heavy Equipment: 9

Crews: 3

<u>Fire Name</u>	<u>Acreage (estimated)</u>
Blodgett Lake	2303 acres
Mill Lake	913 acres
Big Creek	156 acres
Bear Creek	234 acres
Kootenai Creek:	1 acres

## Summary:

Today is the last shift for the Northern Rockies Team 1. Seth Carbonari's Type III Incident Management team will take command of the incident tomorrow, Friday, September 23, 2022.

Work is nearing completion along the shaded fuel break east of the fire, where firefighters are working on containment lines west of the Bitterroot Valley. Firefighters encourage the public to be cautious of extra fire traffic in the Mill Creek area.

Rain will remain through today and may last most of the night. A half inch to a little over an inch of rain is expected from this system. Very little fire spread has occurred due to the recent rainfall and shorter burn windows. As warm and dry weather returns, smoke may become visible in the coming week.

Firefighters have completed widening buffers on road #1325 using woodchippers to clear brush in tight turns and other vulnerable locations. Fire resources will again be stopping traffic at the intersection of FS-737 and FS-1325 to help complete the remaining work.

Structure protection personnel scouted structures adjacent to US Forest Service lands east of Big Creek, Bear Lake, Mill Lake, and Blodgett Lake Fires. Fire Managers and Structure Protection Specialists met with Bitterroot Valley Volunteer Fire Departments to review a Coordinated Response Plan for use on this or future Wildland fires. More information on the Coordinated Response Plan can be seen in a short video on the Discover Bitterroot National Forest Facebook page.

The Forest has implemented trail closures across the fire area. Refer to the Bitterroot National Forest website for details <https://www.fs.usda.gov/bitterroot>

## Weather:

Rain will occur throughout the day and much of the night. A half-inch to an inch of rain is expected. Winds will be from the west/southwest at seven mph, with gusts up to 20 mph in the valleys. Maximum temperatures will reach into the lower 60s.

InciWeb: Mill Lake Fire: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8392/>

Bitterroot National Forest Website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/bitterroot>

Air Quality: <https://fire.airnow.gov/>

