



# Tumble Creek Fire

August 7, 2008

8:00 am

**INCIDENT COMMANDER:** Tom Heintz  
**INFORMATION OFFICERS:** Brian LaMoure, Kim Frasier, Elizabeth Ballard  
**PHONE:** 406-328-4958 / 406-328-4959  
**LOCATION:** Dean School house located at Nye, MT  
**JURISDICTION:** Custer National Forest

## RESOURCES:

**PERSONNEL:** 145

**HELICOPTERS:** 3

**ACRES:** 620

The Tumble Creek fire is located approximately 7 miles west of the Stillwater Mine in the Beartooth Wilderness. The fire is burning in rugged terrain that is difficult to access. Currently at risk are wilderness values, grizzly bear habitat and a historic mining camp. Yesterday the fire continued to creep slowly and smolder throughout the day, with occasional single tree torching. Three Type 1 crews are currently on the fire and are having to camp on the mountain. Potential for fire growth is medium and the difficulty of the terrain is extreme. No structures are currently at risk.

Yesterdays fire efforts included hand crew suppression and mop up along the entire fire perimeter. One helicopter dropped 18,000 gallons of retardant on hot spots. One helicopter performed reconnaissance over the fire. Additionally, two helicopters assisted the Tumble Creek fire from the Cascade fire with water drops and cargo transport.

Currently the Tumble Creek fire is estimated 60% contained. Unless an unexpected wind event occurs, containment is likely August 8, 2008.

**ACTIONS PLANNED:** Crews will continue to build fire line, and cool hot spots. Helicopter retardant bucket drops will be dropped on hot spots on cliffs that are located on the eastern flank of the fire. Structure protection will continue the assessment of the defensibility from fire of structures at the Stillwater Mine, Mountain View, Cathedral Estates, and Beartooth Lodge areas.

**WEATHER:** Today thunderstorms are possible, with light winds. Friday may bring more numerous thunderstorms.

Woodbine Campground and Trail #24 are open.

**CLOSURES:** Road closures are in place for the West Fork of Stillwater Road, FS road #846, and Picket Pin Road #2140. Additionally, a fire area closure is in place for the area that includes Trail #'s 20, 72, and 90, as well as the Initial Creek Campground.

Stage 1 fire restrictions were put in place for Stillwater County today.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Tumble Creek fire information at the above listed number. Additional national fire information can be found at [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org)