
Gallatin National Forest News Release



For Immediate Release
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Hunters – Make Sure Your Fires Are Out, Dead Out!

Bozeman, Montana... Gallatin National Forest firefighters responded to a human caused wildland fire last night in the 8-Mile drainage in the Paradise Valley. The 8-Mile fire is currently approximately 1/10th acre in size and is burning on the divide between 8-Mile Creek and Dry Creek, about 20 miles southwest of Livingston, Montana.

Six Gallatin National Forest firefighters responded to the fire reported last night. The fire is burning in grass and timber in a remote area that borders private property. The 8-Mile fire is under investigation.

The Gallatin Forest has experienced an increase in human caused fires in 2008. “It appears that people are less diligent with ensuring their campfires are completely out this year. Perhaps the increased moisture over the summer has given forest visitors a sense of complacency,” said Marna Daley, Gallatin National Forest Public Affairs Officer. So far this year, the Gallatin Forest has experienced 32 wildland fires, 78% of which were human caused. In 2007, the Gallatin Forest had 47 fires, 42% human caused and in 2006 the Forest had 43 fires, 37% human caused.

It is important that all visitors, especially hunters this time of year, put out their fires before leaving an area. “The Forest, with assistance from state and local partners and Yellowstone National Park has been very successful catching these fires while they are still small. With your help, we can avoid having a large wildland fire incident yet this year,” said Daley.

Please contact your local Forest Service office for additional information or visit the Gallatin National Forest online at www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin/.

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