

Cherry Peak Fire



INCIDENT ACTION PLAN

8/22/2026

Operational Period 0600-2100

Lolo National Forest, Region 1

P1SX9J26 (0116)

SABHRS: 906492

MT-LNF-260379



INCIDENT OBJECTIVES	1. Incident Name	2. Date Prepared	3. Time Prepared
	Cherry Peak	8/21/2026	1600
4. Operational Period			
August 22, 2026		DAY SHIFT 0600 - 2100	
5. Leader's Intent			
Success is defined as prioritizing responder and public safety while minimizing impacts/threats to identified values at risk. All incident actions must reflect a commitment to aviation, responder, and public safety. Use the risk management process outlined in the IRPG, adhere to the 10 Standard Firefighting Orders, and mitigate the 18 Situations That Shout Watch Out and LCES. If a tactical hazard cannot be mitigated to an acceptable level of risk, do not proceed until mitigation is in place.			
6. Incident Objectives			
1. On the Cherry Peak Fire, execute a full suppression strategy utilizing direct and indirect tactics to minimize impacts to values at risk and firefighter exposure. 2. Prevent or minimize fire impacts to these prioritized values: private residences and property in the Cherry Creek drainage, Private and Federal timber sales, and the Eddy Mountain Lookout. 3. Provide Initial Attack within the TFRs (Temporary Flight Restriction). 4. Consider operational strategies and tactics that minimize smoke impacts to communities and private landowners.			
7. Attachments (X - if attached)			
☒ Organization List - ICS 203	☒ Air Ops Sum. - ICS 220	☒ WF206 8 Line	
☒ Division Assignment Lists - ICS 204	☒ Medical Plan - ICS 206	☐ Fire Behavior	
☒ Communication Plan - ICS 205	☒ Unit Log 214	☒ Weather	
8. Prepared By (Planning Section Chief)		9. Approved By (Incident Commander)	
Brittney M. Allestad		TREVOR Trevor UnsworthUNSWORTH	
ICS 202		Digitally signed by TREVOR UNSWORTH Date: 2026.08.21 11:03:30 -0600 NFES 1326	

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE CHART		7. Operations Section	
1. Incident Name Cherry Peak Fire		Operations	Wade Bache 406-531-6447
2. Date August 22, 2026			
3. Incident Commander and Staff			
Incident Commander	Trevor Unsworth 406-544-7562	Divisions	
Information Officer	Brandalyn Vonk (Virtual) 435-650-2694	Alpha	Rick Oliveras 406-579-0566 Erin Mattix (T) 928-592-3569
Safety Officer	Justin Randall 406-897-4606	Zulu	Kyle Ownsbey 530-643-9052 Patrick Grimes (T) 530-598-5454
4. Agency	Name		
USFS LNF AA	Crystal Stonesifer 406-210-7593 Curtis Rintz (T)		
Forest Supervisor	Ben Johnson Jeremy Casterson (Deputy)		
Forest Fire Staff Officer	Scott Schrenk 406-250-0354		
IBA	Amy Erickson 406-499-5609		
5. Planning Section			
Chief	Brittney Allestad 406-207-7428		
GISS	Becky Howard (RIST)		
Documentation	Gianna Vaccaro (RIST)		
		Air Operations Branch	
		Forest Aviation Officer	Josh Klare 406-406-360-0875
6. Logistics Section		Helibase Manager	Zach Long 406-207-8338 Mark Troxell (T) 541-490-6146
Chief	Kasey Craft 406-261-9261 Heather Berman 406-210-5287		
Base Camp Manager	Logan Boyer (T) 406-274-0902		
Base Camp Manager	Josh Heise (T) 406-369-5724	8. Finance	
		Chief	Amy Erickson 406-499-5609
		Personal Time Recorder	Kara Altmiller 406-540-3451
9. Prepared by: Brittney Allestad, PSC3		Date/Time: 8/21/26 1600	

SAFETY MESSAGE:

Common Sense

"Common Sense, Training and Experience = A SAFE Assignment"

- If you see a hazard and can correct it. Correct it. After you correct it make it known.... Those hazards may be present elsewhere on the incident.
- Terrain is steep, loose, and far from the nearest road – an injury here means a long, difficult extraction. Pace yourself, maintain 3-points-of-contact, and know your egress route. If a step or condition doesn't feel right, stop and reassess.
- To minimize firefighter exposure, only mission essential fireline activities should be engaged.
 - Every tactic and resource decision should be weighed against the values at risk, firefighter and public safety, property, and infrastructure. This ensures operations remain proportionate, purposeful, and defensible under changing fire behavior.
- Be cognizant of fatigue. We all have it. Levels of fatigue vary.

Remember that hazards are everywhere ICP / Camp, Roadways, Fireline, Helibase..... Hazards don't change, your approach to hazard does.

Fire Weather Forecast

August 22, 2026

FIRE WEATHER WATCH IN EFFECT FROM SATURDAY AFTERNOON THROUGH SUNDAY MORNING

DISCUSSION

Near critical fire weather conditions will be present from Saturday evening through Sunday morning due to the potential for dry thunderstorms. Hazy, warm, and dry conditions continued today with temperatures near 83F and Min RH 18%. Winds were generally easterly and light. Saturday again will be hot and dry, a disturbance moving onshore NW Washington will allow for an increase in winds. Late afternoon sufficient instability will be present to produce mostly dry thunderstorms, 20% chance or less. Through 9 pm these storms will be capable of lightning and gusty outflow winds 25 to 40 mph. Overnight there is a 15% chance of nocturnal thunderstorms continuing to produce lightning with little to no precipitation. Sunday morning a very dry cold front moves through the region. Wind gusts up to 25 mph will be possible, with RHs slightly improved compared to Saturday due to cooler temperatures but overall drier air mass. The addition of breezy and low RH conditions will allow for near elevated fire weather concerns.

SATURDAY

Sky/Weather: Partly cloudy. Slight chance of showers before noon.

CWR (> 0.10 Inch): 0 percent.

Chance Lightning: Up to 10 percent.

Maximum Temperature: 75-80.

Minimum Humidity: 24-29 percent.

Wind (20 ft): Southeast around 5 mph shifting to the southwest 6-12 mph with gusts 15-20 mph in the afternoon.

Mixing Height: 2500 ft agl increasing to 9000 ft agl.

Mixing Winds: South 10 mph.

Precipitation Amount: 0.00 inches.

SATURDAY NIGHT

Sky/Weather: Partly cloudy. Chance of showers and slight chance of thunderstorms in the evening and nocturnal thunderstorms overnight.

CWR (> 0.10 Inch): Less than 10 percent.

Chance Lightning: 20 percent.

Minimum Temperature: 56-61.

Maximum Humidity: 56-61 percent.

Wind (20 ft): Southwest 5-6 mph shifting to the west 8-9 mph with gusts to 15 mph overnight.

Mixing Height: 2500 ft agl decreasing to 500 ft agl early in the evening.

Mixing Winds: Southwest 10 mph.

Precipitation Amount: 0.03 inches.

SUNDAY

Sky/Weather: Mostly sunny.

CWR (> 0.10 Inch): 0 percent.

Chance Lightning: 0 percent.

Maximum Temperature: 63-68.

Minimum Humidity: 31-36 percent.

Wind (20 ft): Southwest 8-13 mph. Gusts up to 25 mph in the afternoon.

Mixing Height: 2000 ft agl increasing to 7500 ft agl.

Mixing Winds: West 15 mph.

Precipitation Amount: 0.00 inches.

DIVISION ASSIGNMENT LIST			Branch		Division/Group				
Incident Name					Alpha				
Cherry Peak			Operational Period						
			Date 08/22/2026		Time 0600-2100				
Operations Personnel									
Safety Officer	Justin Randall 406-897-4606		Line Operations		Wade Bache 406-531-6447				
Branch			Planning Operations						
Division / Group Supervisor	Rick Oliveras 406-579-0566 Erin Mattix(T) 928-592-3569		Strategic Operations						
Work Assignments									
Strategic Action 1:									
Task: Continue mixed line construction using a direct suppression strategy from the division break at the heel of the fire to the division break at the head of the fire.									
Purpose: To keep fire in its current footprint and limit any fire growth to the South/West.									
End State: Direct mixed line is completed and fire is held to its current footprint.									
Resources Assigned This Period									
Strike Team/Task Force/ Resource Designator	Req #	Last Shift	Leader	# Persons	On Duty Location / Time	Off Duty Location / Time			
CRW1 Stanislaus IHC	C-4	9/3	Brandon Hull/Devon Herzog	22	Cherry Spike 0600	Cherry Spike 2100			
CRIA Palouse	C-3	9/2	Chad Borg/James Caneff(T)	20	H2 0600	H2 2100			
CRW2 Lolo Regulars	C-2	9/1	Kevin McGuire/Nick Jones (T)	19	Cherry Spike 0600	Cherry Spike 2100			
SMIA Missoula	A-20	9/1	Brady Kortez	8	H1 0600	H1 2100			
Price Valley Rappelers			Steve Harig	7	H2 0600	H2 2100			
Special Instructions									
Division/Group Communication Summary									
Function	Channel	Frequency RX	Tone RX	Frequency TX	Tone TX	Function	Channel	Frequency RX	Frequency TX
TAC	4	167.1125		167.1125		A/G Pri	6	164.7500	164.7500
CMD Repeater	2	172.3875		164.1750	131.8	A/G Sec	7	164.8000	164.8000
Ground Ambo	13	155.2800		155.2800	156.7				
Air Guard	16	168.6250		168.6250	110.9				
Prepared by Brittney M. Allestad		Approved By Brittney M. Allestad				Date 08/21/2026		Time 1800	
Total # of Line Resources:	78								

[illegible]

AIR OPERATIONS SUMMARY (ICS 220)

1. Incident Name: Cherry Peak MT-LNF-260379		2. Operational Period: Date From: 8/22/2026 Time From: 0600		Date To: 8/23/2026 Time To: 2200		3. Sunset: 20:40		Pumpkin: 21:10	
4. Remarks (safety notes, hazards, air operations special equipment, etc.): * River recreation in dip site locations SUNSET PROTOCOL- Recommended that tactical air operations be conducted only until sunset and to utilize the 30 minutes after sunset for flights back to an airport or helibase.		5. Ready Alert Aircraft: Medivac: Two Bear Air- Missoula Dispatch Life Flight Missoula/ Shorthaul in Butte				6. Temporary Flight Restriction Number: TFR # 6/6215 Freq: 127.1750			
		8. Frequencies:		AM		FM		9. Fixed-Wing (category/kind/type, make/model, N#, base):	
		TFR		127.1750		Air Tactical Group Supervisor Aircraft:			
		A/A Secondary		123.4000		Order Air Attack through Missoula Dispatch			
7. Personnel:		Name:		Phone Number:					
Forest Aviation Officer		Josh Klare		406-360-0875					
Helibase Manager		Zach Long		406-207-8338					
Helispots		H-1		Cherry Peak		164.7500			
H-2		47 29.32 115 11.04		A/G Secondary		164.8000			
H-3		47 29.96 115 10.80		A/G Secondary		164.8000			
10. Helicopters (use additional sheets as necessary):									
FAA N#	Category/Kind/Type	Make/Model	Base	Available	Start	Remarks			
4RA	Type 1 EU	Chinook	Missoula Airport	0900	0800	NRGA/Bucket			
7WF	Type 3 EU	Bell 407	Plains Helibase	0830	0800	Forest IA			
6RA	Type 1 EU	Chinook	Libby	0900	0800	NRGA Lend/Lease			
8ES	Type 1 EU	Chinook	Kalispell	0900	0800	NRGA Lend/Lease			
332N (Rappel)	Type 1 EU	Super Puma	Missoula AFD	0830	0800	NRGA Lend/Lease			
11. Prepared by: Name: Josh Klare									
Position/Title: FAQ									
Signature:									
ICS 220, Page 1									

INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN (ICS 205)

1. Incident Name: Cherry Peak		2. Date/Time Prepared: Date: 8/21/2026 Time: 1500		3. Operational Period: Date From: 8/22/2026 Time From: 0600		Date To: 8/22/2026 Time To: 2100			
4. Basic Radio Channel Use:									
Zone Grp.	Ch #	Function	Channel Name/Trunked Radio System Talk group	RX Freq N or W	RX Tone N or AC	TX Freq N or W	TX Tone/NAC	Mode (A, D, or M)	Remarks
	1	W. DIRECT	DIRECT	172.3875		172.3875	127.3	A	
	2	W. REPEAT	EDDY MTN	172.3875		164.1750	131.8	A	
	3	TAC 2	DIV 2	167.6250		167.6250		A	DIV 2
	4	TAC 1	DIV A	167.1125		167.1125		A	DIV A
	5								
	6	A/G PRIMARY	A/G	164.7500		164.7500		A	CHERRY PK PRI
	7	A/G SEC	A/G	164.8000		164.8000		A	CHERRY PK SEC
	8	A/G 5	A/G 5	166.7500		166.7500		A	WEST ZONE A/G IA
	9	A/G 48	A/G 48	167.8875		167.8875		A	EAST ZONE A/G IA
	10								
	11	MUTUAL AID	RED	154.0700		154.0700	156.7	A	VFD
	12	AIR/MEDICAL	TAN	155.3400		155.3400	156.7	A	AIR TRANSPORT
	13	GROUND AMBO	WHITE	155.2800		155.2800	156.7	A	GROUND TRANSPORT
	14								
	15								
	16	AIRGUARD	AIRGUARD	168.625		168.625	110.9	A	EMERGENCY AIR
5. Special Instructions:									
6. Prepared by: Name: KASEY CRAFT				Signature: <i>Kasey Craft</i>					
ICS 205				Date/Time: 08/21/2026 1500					

Finance Message

All resources will submit **Digital** CTRs & Shift Tickets. Time documents should be emailed daily to the finance inbox listed below.

Incident Finance email: **2026.cherrypeak.finance@firenet.gov**

Helpful Hints for Success!

- Hazard Pay – "H = Hazard Pay" is not a sufficient justification for hazard pay. Please elaborate in the remarks. (Ex: Hazard pay for working on an uncontrolled fireline.)

Shift Ticket/CTR Checklist:

- Signatures – Ensure your CTR is signed by your Incident Supervisor prior to digital submission.
- Resource Order # - Please make sure you list your resource order number in the upper right-hand box of your CTR.

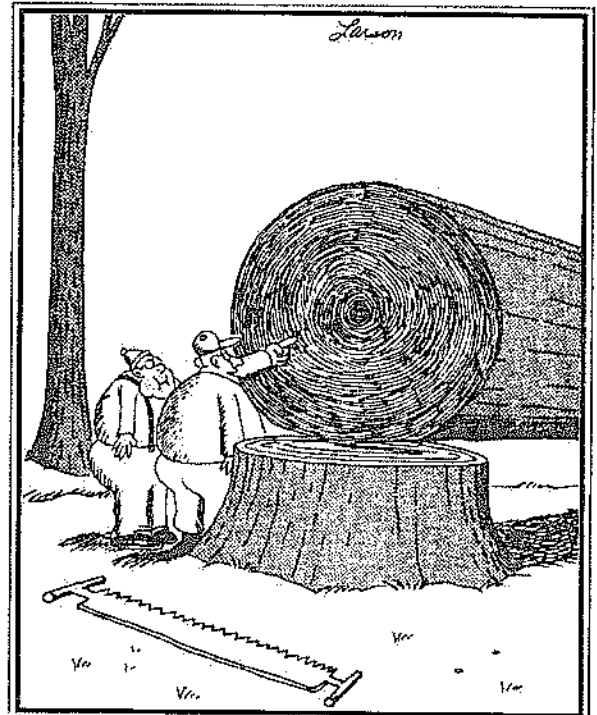
Finance Contacts

Phone Numbers:

- Overhead, Agency Crews/Engines – (406) 540-3451
- Comp/Claims – (406) 499-5609

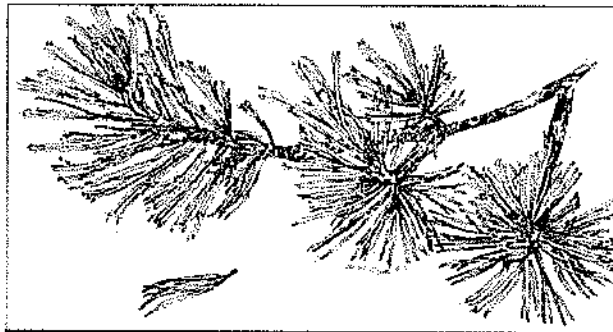
Whitebark Pine – A Living Legacy

- Whitebark pine is a five-needle white pine. It's a slow-growing, long-lived tree with a life span of up to **500 years** and sometimes more than **1,000 years**. The oldest known white bark pine is located nearby in Idaho and identified to be 1,294 years old!
- Found in upper and subalpine ecosystems, whitebark pine is a foundation species, and it's in trouble. Whitebark pine is currently listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act.
- As a foundation species, they help create suitable habitat for other species. They are valued for protecting watersheds and act as snow fences to hold moisture later in the spring, gradually releasing water into stream systems. Their deep roots stabilize rocky and poorly developed soils.
- This tree is in danger of functional extinction due to the introduced white pine blister rust, bark beetle attack, and encroachment of shade-tolerant conifers.



"And see this ring right here, Jimmy? ... That's another time when the old fellow miraculously survived some big forest fire."

These trees can easily be damaged when we fight fire because they often grow in the same location we build fireline and helispots. It is very important that we do what we can to protect the remaining whitebark pine in these areas. Help by identifying them and not cutting this species. Ask your local REAF about it!



Whitebark pine have 5 needles per fascicle, clustered at branch ends. Whitebark pines can be confused with lodgepole pine, which have similar bark, but only 2 needles per fascicle.

1. Incident/Project Name				2. Operational Period				
Cherry Peak Fire				Date/Time 08/22/2026		0600-2100		
3. Ambulance Services								
Ambulance	Complete Address			Phone & EMS Frequency	Advanced Life Support (ALS) Yes No			
Plains Community Ambulance	10 Kruger Rd, Plains, MT 59859			911/ MIDC		NO		
Thompson Falls Ambulance	Thompson Falls, MT 59873			911/ MIDC		NO		
4. Air Ambulance Services								
Name		Phone		Type of Aircraft & Capability				
Life Flight Network - Missoula, MT		911 or thru MIDC		Paramedics/Flight Nurse				
Two Bear Air - Kalispell, MT		Flathead (406)-758-5610		Hoist capable, SAR, Paramedics, Flight nurses				
5. Hospitals								
Name Complete Address	Coordinate Standard		Travel Time Air Grd			Helipad Yes No	Level of Care	
Clark Fork Valley Hospital 10 Kruger Road Plains, MT 59859	Lat:	47 28.145	Min	Min	406-826-4875 406-826-4800 Helipad	☒	☐	Limited- CTF Helipad-Type 3
	Long:	-114 53.333						
	VHF:	155.280 Tone Tx 156.7						
St. Patrick's Hospital 500 West Broadway Missoula, MT	Lat:	46 52.528	Min	Hr	406-329-2620 406-543-7271 Helipad	☒	☐	Level 2 – RTC Helipad-Type 2/3
	Long:	-113 59.984						
	VHF:	155.280 Tone Tx 156.7						
Harborview 333 8 th Ave Seattle, Washington	Lat:	47 36.169	Min	Hr	206-744-3074 ER	☒	☐	Level 1 Burn Center
	Long:	-122 19.481						
	VHF:							
Plains Family Medical 10 Kruger Rd Plains MT 59859	Lat:	47 28.145	Min	Min	406-826-4810	☒	☐	Urgent Care
	Long:	-114 53.333						
	VHF:	155.280 Tone Tx 156.7						
6. Branch / Division / Group		Area Location Capability						
DIV ALPHA		EMS Responders & Capability		Call 911. Call Missoula Dispatch Center: 406-829-7070.				
		Medical Emergency Channel		WEST REPEAT: EDDY MTN				
DIV ZULU		EMS Responders & Capability		Call 911. Call Missoula Dispatch Center: 406-829-7070.				
		Medical Emergency Channel		WEST REPEAT: EDDY MTN				
7. Name & Location		Remote Camp Location(s)						
8. Prepared By (Medical Unit Leader)		9. Date/Time		10. Reviewed By (Safety Officer)		11. Date/Time		
Justin Randall, SOFC		08/21/2026		Justin Randall, SOFC		08/21/2026		

Medical Incident Report – 8 Line

FOR A NON-EMERGENCY INCIDENT, WORK THROUGH CHAIN OF COMMAND TO REPORT AND TRANSPORT INJURED PERSONNEL AS NECESSARY.

FOR A MEDICAL EMERGENCY: IDENTIFY ON SCENE INCIDENT COMMANDER BY NAME AND POSITION AND ANNOUNCE "MEDICAL EMERGENCY" TO INITIATE RESPONSE FROM IMT COMMUNICATIONS/DISPATCH.

Use the following items to communicate situation to communications/dispatch.

1. CONTACT COMMUNICATIONS / DISPATCH (Verify correct frequency prior to starting report)

Ex: "Communications, Div. Alpha. Stand-by for Emergency Traffic."

2. INCIDENT STATUS: Provide incident summary (including number of patients) and command structure.

Ex: "Communications, I have a Red priority patient, unconscious, struck by a falling tree. Requesting air ambulance to Forest Road 1 at (Lat./Long.) This will be the Trout Meadow Medical, IC is TFLD Jones. EMT Smith is providing medical care."

Severity of Emergency / Transport Priority	☐ RED / PRIORITY 1 Life or limb threatening injury or illness. Evacuation need is IMMEDIATE Ex: Unconscious, difficulty breathing, bleeding severely, 2° – 3° burns more than 4 palm sizes, heat stroke, disoriented. ☐ YELLOW / PRIORITY 2 Serious Injury or illness. Evacuation may be DELAYED if necessary. Ex: Significant trauma, unable to walk, 2° – 3° burns not more than 1-3 palm sizes. ☐ GREEN / PRIORITY 3 Minor Injury or illness. Non-Emergency transport Ex: Sprains, strains, minor heat-related illness.	
Nature of Injury or Illness & Mechanism of Injury		Brief Summary of Injury or Illness (Ex: Unconscious, Struck by Falling Tree)
Transport Request		Air Ambulance / Short Haul/Hoist Ground Ambulance / Other
Patient Location		Descriptive Location & Lat. / Long. (WGS84)
Incident Name		Geographic Name + "Medical" (Ex: Trout Meadow Medical)
On-Scene Incident Commander		Name of on-scene IC of Incident within an Incident (Ex: TFLD Jones)
Patient Care		Name of Care Provider (Ex: EMT Smith)

3. INITIAL PATIENT ASSESSMENT: Complete this section for each patient as applicable (start with the most severe patient)

Patient Assessment:

See IRPG page 106

Treatment:

4. TRANSPORT PLAN:

Evacuation Location (if different): (Descriptive Location (drop point, intersection, etc.) or Lat. / Long.) Patient's ETA to Evacuation Location:

Helispot / Extraction Site Size and Hazards:

5. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES / EQUIPMENT NEEDS:

Example: Paramedic/EMT, Crews, Immobilization Devices, AED, Oxygen, Trauma Bag, IV/Fluid(s), Splints, Rope rescue, Wheeled litter, HAZMAT, Extrication

6. COMMUNICATIONS: Identify State Air/Ground EMS Frequencies and Hospital Contacts as applicable

Function	Channel Name/Number	Receive (RX)	Tone/NAC *	Transmit (TX)	Tone/NAC *
COMMAND					
AIR-TO-GRND					
TACTICAL					

7. CONTINGENCY: Considerations: If primary options fail, what actions can be implemented in conjunction with primary evacuation method? Be thinking ahead.

8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Updates/Changes, etc.

REMEMBER: Confirm ETA's of resources ordered. Act according to your level of training. Be Alert. Keep Calm. Think Clearly. Act Decisively.