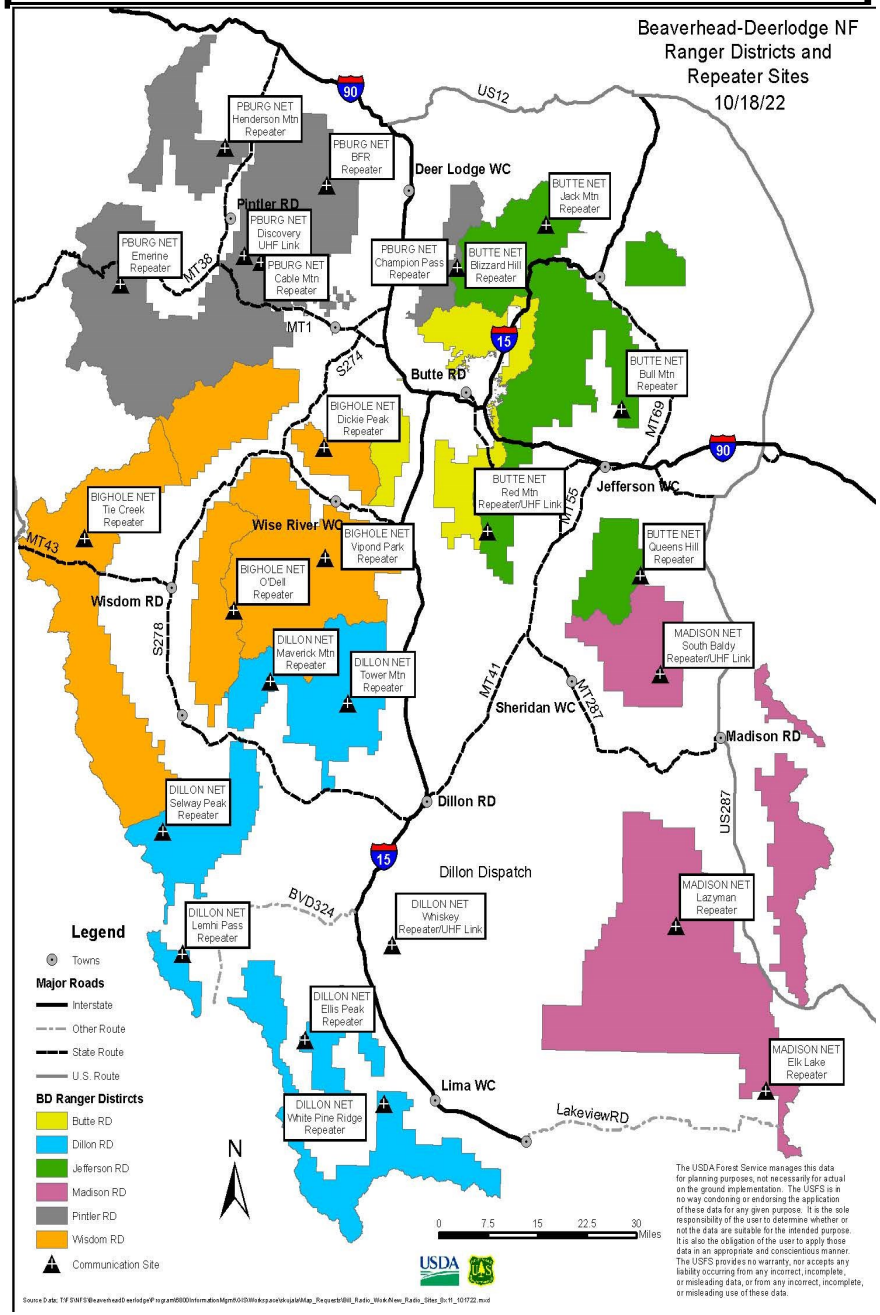
Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF
District & Repeater Sites Map



BUTTE - JEFFERSON ZONE FIRE MANAGEMENT

2026 DETAILER FIRE BRIEFING GUIDE

BUTTE RANGER DISTRICT
1820 Meadowlark Lane,
Butte, MT 59701
406-494-2147

https://linktr.ee/buttejefferson

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Check-in/Demob

https://linktr.ee/mtbdf

MEDICAL PROCEDURES

MEDICAL PLAN (ICS 206 WF)

Controlled Unclassified Information//Basic

Medical Incident Report

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.**

ICS 206 WF (03/18) **Controlled Unclassified Information//Basic**

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

The nearest Flight for Life helicopters are located in Butte, MT. Missoula, MT, Bozeman, MT or Idaho Falls, ID, depending on location on the Forest. Immediately contact dispatch for any medical emergencies. If there is any question as to the severity of the injuries, order a medevac through dispatch. For further instructions on medevac procedures see the following pages.

PROCEDURES

Dillon Interagency Dispatch Office coordinates all medevac operations associated within the Dillon Division. Agency of the victim(s) will determine which Agency takes the lead. Field going personnel must be made aware that the initial request for medical assistance should be made through Dillon Dispatch via the Forest radio net. If for any reason the requesting party does not get a response from Dillon Dispatch, the individual should immediately call the District Office associated with their current location or 911.

On the initial broadcast the requesting unit should:

- **Ask dispatach to declare an EMERGENCY MEDICAL INCIDENT and request that non-emergency radio traffic be suspended.**
- **Provide the name of the MEDICAL INCIDENT COMMANDER.**

The requesting unit should be prepared to provide the information included on the B-D National Forest Emergency Field Medical Incident Size-up Form. The responding office should immediately be prepared to copy the information on to their copy of the Medical Incident Size-up form. If the requesting field unit does not have a copy of the form the responding office should be prepared to prompt the IC for the necessary information.

Once the initial request for assistance has been made all attempts should be made to maintain consistency throughout the process. Radio contacts on both ends should also remain the same. The office that initiates the Medevac process with EMS should continue until the operation is completed.

Butte Ranger District Contact List

	Name	Cell Phone	Office
District Ranger	Tim Lahey, RANGER 4	(406) 533-8408	(406) 494-0250
Duty Officer		(406) 285-8611	

Butte/Jefferson Fire Staff		Cell Phone	Office
District FMO	Kevin Smith—**Division 4**	(406) 491-0202	(406) 494-0215
N. Zone Fuels	Jesse Myers - **Branch 4-2**	(406) 531-1652	(406) 494-0224
Operations AFMO	Shane Martin—**Battalion 4-1**	(406) 533-9162	(406) 494-0228
Fuels AFMO	Scott Drake—**Battalion 4-2**	(406) 459-8579	(406) 494-0252
Fuels Tech	Rob Dunn—**Fuels 4-1**	(406) 599-3041	
Fuels Tech	Kristin Spurgeon—**Fuels 4-2**	(406) 208-7457	
Prevention Tech	Molly Chiappetta—**Prev 4**	(262) 994-1008	
Forest Training	Jason Willoughby - **Branch 2-1**	(406) 490-6761	
LEO	Kristina Vitolins - **FS-56**	(406) 494-0217	(406) 925-9700

Whitehall IA				
Gordon Wegley **Supt 4-1** C:(406) 437-2589	Vacant **Captain 4-1A** C:(406)	Ilan "Lonnie" Briggs **Crew 4-1B** C:(304) 582-0334	Vacant **Senior 4-1C** C: (406)	Vacant C: (406)
Mason Groff C: (830) 357-6201	Vacant C:()	Bryce Wilson C:(785) 331-5573	Luke DesCombaz C:(218) 234-6013	Michelle Smyth C:(401) 378-2947
Vet Crew				
Mitch Robbins **Supt 4-2** C:(406) 431-7162	Brychan DeMoney Gross **Captain 4-2** C:(406) 565-0174	Warren Baxter **Crew 4-2A** C:(208) 258-0593	Vacant **Crew 4-2B** C:()	Josh McCamby **Senior 4-2D** C:(480) 353-8300
Vacant Senior C:()	Eric Glines C:(801) 597-4800	Richard Lozano C:(818) 391-2704	Cory Moss C:(740) 253-8722	Raymond Liang C:(415) 917-8188
E641				
Paul Monforton **Captain 4-1** C:(406) 490-9993	Kristina Luotto **Engineer 4-1** C:(406) 594-5538	Kallan Banning **Lead 4-1** C:(406) 465-1350	Kassie Yeager **Senior 4-1** C:(970) 417-7564	Tevin Kagame (406) 769-1753
Casey Helmeczi C:(717) 779-6152	Naomi Sweeney C:(717) 459-4864	Vacant C:(406)		Joshua Torres (484) 374-5177
E671				
Doug Bertelsen **Captain 7-1** C:(406) 209-1489	Vacant **Engineer 7-1** C:(406)	Ris Kleve **Lead 7-1** C:(563) 608-3956	Gryphon Lombardi **Senior 7-1** C:(406) 490-9129	
Zoey Pophal C:(570) 692-2929	Christian Rodriguez C: (801) 783-0335	Dexter Mills C:(443) 900-0556		
E672				
Matt Racicot **Captain 7-2** C:(406) 493-2278	Vacant **Engineer 7-2** C:(406)	Marino Wall **Lead 7-2** C:(406) 437-8327	Joseph Bogucki **Senior 7-2** C:(720) 202-6233	
Clara Fogarty C:(314) 513-2412	Jake Lewis C:(669) 237-6440	Will Kipp C:(507) 990-3945		

Name	Phone	Cell
Supervisors Office	(406) 683-3900	
Corey Lewellen - Forest Sup	(406) 683-3978	(406) 522-2531
Nate Gassmann —Deputy Forest Sup	(406) 683-3978	(406) 490-4605
Joe Sampson - Forest Fire Staff	(406) 683-3955	(406) 491-0884
Eric Reiner - Deputy Fire Staff	(406) 683-3923	(406) 396-0724
Greg Schenk- Forest Fuels Specialist	(406)	(406) 691-0371
Rich Reneau- Forest Fire Planner	(406)	(406) 493-5799
Bert Smith - Forest Aviation Officer	(406) 683-3956	(406) 660-7371
Matt Nelson- Forest Prevention		(406) 865-0454
Asheli Racicot - Incident Business Spec.		(406) 502-8205
Mike King- South Zone Fuels Planner		(406) 560-3120
Terina Hill - Fire Public Affairs Officer	(406) 683-3920	(406) 865-0941
Vacant- Forest Safety Officer	(406)	(406)
Dillon Dispatch	(406) 683-3975	
Claire Smith - Center Manager	(406) 683-3992	(406) 660-2998
Alex Horton - Assistant Center Manage	(406) 683-3939	(801) 554-1594
Ella Hoffman - IA Dispatcher	(406) 683-3986	(406)
Victoria Curtis - Lead Dispatcher	(406) 683-3986	(207) 505-5133
Jason Mickelson - Aircraft Dispatcher	(406) 683-3942	(406) 240-7853
Kay Finwall - IA Dispatcher	(406) 683-	
Wise River Helitack		
Randy Gilbert - Manager	(406) 683-3994	(406) 925-3779
Nick Plovanic - Assistant Manager	(406) 683-3930	(406) 366-0179
Dillon Ranger District	(406) 683-3900	
Aaron Knudsen - DIVS 1	(406) 683-3983	(775) 846-3056
Chris Hinkey - OPS BAT 1-1	(406)	(406) 865-0189
JT Millay- Captain 1-1	(406) 683-3968	(406) 565-1804
Colter Dickinson - Fuels BAT 1-2	(406) 683-3945	(406) 291-5960
Jason Bradley - Fuels 1-2	(406) 683-	(513) 237-9952
Jaime Trivette- Prevention 1-6	(406) 683-3969	(307) 690-1985
Madison Ranger District	(406) 641-2348	
James King- DIVS 6	(406) 641-2355	(406) 925-3802
Kyle Errecart - OPS BAT 6-1	(406) 641-2379	(406) 499-6009
Steve Worley- Captain 6-1	(406) 641-2381	(406) 640-7711
Derek Wittenberg- Captain 6-2	(406) 641-2378	(406) 240-6619
Chris Hericks - Fuels BAT 6-2	(406) 641-2366	(406) 865-0269
Helen Duran - Fuels 6-2		(719) 588-0289
Helen Duran - Fuels 6-2		(719) 588-0289

B-D Radio User Tone List

REPEATER TONE TABLE						
CH	**TONE**	**DILLON NET**	**BUTTE NET**	**MADISON NET**	**BIG HOLE NET**	**PBURG NET**
1	110.9	**LEMHI**				
2	123.0			**LAZYMAN**		**BFR**
3	131.8	**WHITE PINE**		**SKYLINE**		
4	136.5				**TIE CREEK**	**HENDER-SON**
5	146.2	**WHISKEY**		**S. BALDY**		**WHISKEY**
6	156.7		**BLIZZARD**	**ELK LAKE**		**CHAMPI-ON**
7	167.9		**JACK MTN**		**ODELL**	
8	103.5		**RED MTN**		**VIPOND**	
9	100.0	**MAVERICK**	**BULL MTN**			
10	107.2	**SELWAY**				**MT EMER-**
11	114.8					
12	127.3	**ELLIS PEAK**				
13	141.3			**NORRIS**		
14	151.4		**QUEENS**	**W. BENCH**	**DICKIE**	
15	162.2	**TOWER MTN**		**MADISON**		**CABLE**
16	192.8	**PORTABLE**	**PORTABLE**	**PORTA-**	**PORTABLE**	**PORTABLE**

GROUP 11 – D4 FIRE# 2 (BUTTE/JEFF LARGE FIRE)					
CH	**Frequency Description**	RX	TX	REQ'D TONE	TX NAC
1	**RED MTN**	172.325	164.825	103.5	1035
2	**QUEENS HILL**	172.325	164.825	151.4	1514
3	**BLIZZARD**	172.325	164.825	156.7	1567
4	**JACK MTN**	172.325	164.825	167.9	1679
5	**BULL MTN**	172.325	164.825	100.0	1000
6	**SCARLET**	154.2950	154.2950	156.7	1567
7	**ORANGE**	151.400	151.400	156.7	1567
8	**R1 FIRE TAC**	167.1125	167.1125	156.7	1567
9	**RED** (Fire Co-op)	154.070	154.070	156.7	1567
10	**CORAL**	154.265	154.265	156.7	1567
11	**MAROON**	154.280	154.280	156.7	1567
12	**A/G #29** (BD A/G1)	166.900	166.900		
13	**A/G #26** (B-D A/G2)	166.6875	166.6875		
14	**YELLOW**	151.22	151.22	156.7	1567
15	**TAN**	155.340	155.340	156.7	1567
16	**AIR GUARD**	168.625	168.625	110.9	110.9

Communications

Dispatch:

- Dillon Dispatch is located in Dillon, MT in the Forest Supervisor's Office.
- Phone number: 406-683-3975
- Email: mtddc@firenet.gov
- Expanded Dispatch Phone number: 406-683-3875
- Expanded: mtddc_expanded@firenet.gov

Radios:

- The district repeaters use user-selected tones.
- The color channels are interagency and state channels.
- Tan is the A/G channel for air ambulances and emergency traffic.

Butte RD Radio Fire Group

GROUP 10 – D4 FIRE #1 (BUTTE-JEFF FIRE) USER-SELECT TONE GROUP

CH	Frequency Description	RX	TX	TX Tone	
1	**PROJECT**	168.750	168.750	3	
2	**BUTTE RPT**	172.325	164.825	**SEE TBL**	
3	**PBURG RPT**	173.725	165.9125	**SEE TBL**	
4	**MADISON RPT**	171.425	164.700	**SEE TBL**	
5	**BIG HOLE RPT**	173.0875	165.725	**SEE TBL**	
6	**BSB FIRE 1**	EMERGENCY	ONLY		
7	**JEFFCO 261**	EMERGENCY	ONLY		
8	**BSB PAGE**	154.16	154.16		
9	**RED** (Fire Co-op)	154.070	154.070	6	
10	**MAROON** (VFIRE21)	154.280	154.280	6	
11	**BLM SOA 1**	168.225	168.225		
12	**R1 FIRE TAC**	167.1125	167.1125	6	
13	**A/G #29** (BD A/G1)	166.900	166.900		
14	**A/G #26** (B-D A/G2)	166.6875	166.6875		
15	**YELLOW** (DNRC A/G)	151.220	151.220	6	
16	**TAN** (EMS A/G)	155.340	155.340	6	

Name	Phone	Cell
Pintler Ranger District	(406) 859-3211	
Jerod Russell - DIVS 8	(406) 859-3211	(218) 946-6803
Josh Hansen—OPS BAT 8-1	(406) 859-3211	(406) 925-0302
Ryan Hennager- Captain 8-1	(406) 859-3211	(406) 593-1084
Charlie McDonald - Supt 8-1	(406) 859-3211	(406) 531-2424
Matt Latray - Fuels BAT 8-2	(406) 859-3211	(406) 865-0452
Sam Sulser - Fuels 8-1	(406) 859-3211	(406) 220-1750
Roger Mathews- Fuels 8-2	(406) 859-3211	(509) 699-3661
Julie Maez - Prevention 8	(406) 859-3211	(406) 214-0746
Wisdom Ranger District	(406) 689-3243 WD	(406) 832-7128 WR
Richard Griffin - DIVS 3	(406) 689-3243	(406) 925-1951
Ian Quist – OPS BAT 3-1	(406) 832-3178	(406) 410-8527
Brian Gorwitz - Captain 3-1	(406) 689-3243	(406) 210-2344
Tim Eteinne - Captain 2-1	(406) 832-3178	(406) 291-2162
Justin Bogart – Supt 3-1	(406) 832-3178	(406) 214-8960
Donavan Suko - Fuels BAT 3-2	(406) 689-3243	(406) 544-9562
Nate Decker - Fuels 3-1	(406)	(406) 660-1071
Brian Bressan - Fuels 3-2	(406)	(303) 807-6391
Butte/Dillon BLM	(406) 533-7600 B	(406) 683-8000 D
Brad Bergman - FMO	(406) 533-7611	(715) 617-2738
Jonathan Clark - Fire Mgt Specialist	(406) 683-8047	(406) 560-5634
Jonathan White- Fuels Specialist		(406) 490-0587
Greg Campbell - Fuels Mgt Specialist	(406) 533-7608	(406) 490-0548
Paul Diaz - Fire Planner		(406) 550-6463
Dillon DNRC	(406) 683-6305	
Jay Lemon - DIVS 7201	(406) 683-6305	(406) 491-8530
Kyle Rawson- BAT 7201	(406) 683-6305	(406) 925-1548
Anaconda DNRC	(406) 563-6078	
Marquis Walker- DIVS 1301	(406) 563-6078	(406) 788-3148
Dakota Crowe - BAT 1301	(406) 563-6078	(406) 565-8098
Helena DNRC	(406) 458-3500	
Scott Ward - Unit FMO	(406) 458-3502	(406) 980-0387
Jeff Beaver - Unit AFMO	(406)	(406) 431-4439
Charlie Ewert - Unit FOS	(406)	(509) 953-1291
Helena DNRC Duty Officer Phone		(406) 458-3525
Anaconda Job Corp		
Monica Thomas - AFMO Branch 2-2	(406) 563-8711	(406) 479-3336

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest General Information

The largest of the national forests in Montana covers 3.35 million acres and lies in eight Southwest Montana counties (Granite, Powell, Jefferson, Deerlodge, Silver Bow, Madison, Gallatin, and Beaverhead). The forest has five ranger districts: Butte (D4), Pintler (D8), Madison (D6), Wise River (D2), and Dillon (D1) (See district map on back cover). Elevations vary from 3,900 feet to over 11, 200 feet.

The Forest Service (FS), Montana Department of Natural Resources (DNRC), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), National Park Service (NPS), and County Fire Wardens have entered into Fire Protection agreements to provide the most efficient response to wildland fires. The FS and DNRC both have direct protection on federal, state, and private lands, while the counties protect primarily private lands and some scattered state lands. The BLM, NPS, and FWS have no direct protection responsibilities in the area.

Butte Ranger District (Formerly Butte-Jefferson R.D.)

The Butte Ranger District is comprised of the Butte and Jefferson Ranger Districts. The district office is in Butte and the Whitehall Work Center is in Whitehall. The district is bordered by the Helena National Forest on the north and contains the southern portion of the Elkhorn Mountains, the northern portion of the Tobacco Root Mountains, the Highland Mountains and the Bull Mountains. The Butte Ranger District is the most populated area of the forest with four communities within the district boundary (Butte, Whitehall, Boulder, and Basin). The district also lies in 3 different counties (Jefferson, Silver Bow, and Madison).

Due to its location near communities and two interstate highways (I15 and I90), the district sees heavy recreational use. OHV's, disperse camping, hiking, hunting, mountain biking and horseback riding are all commonly done. The Continental Divide bisects the district and sees many bike riders and hikers. Pipestone, West of Whitehall, has become one of the busier OHV areas in the state.

The Butte Ranger District has also had a long mining history as evidenced by the Berkley Pit in Butte. Mining started in the 1880's looking for gold and silver, than copper.

Farfield Inn & Suites Butte
2340 Cornell Ave
Butte, MT 59701
406-494-3000
Newer hotel located near I-90. Free hot continental breakfast. A few fast food restaurants are within walking distance.

The Forge
100 Union Avenue
Anaconda, Montana 59711
(406) 797-4100

Recently remodeled hotel with in-house restaurant and bar. In Anaconda, about 25 min drive from the office

Jefferson Inn
515N Whitehall St
Whitehall, MT 59759
406-287-7924

Only hotel in Whitehall, located near I-90. A few fast food restaurants are located nearby.

- Pull all gear from rooms every day. There is no guarantee you will return to the hotel.
- There have been some vehicle break-ins at hotels in Butte.
- Ensure all valuables are locked away and not visible.

Butte Office:

- The office has an alarm system. Do not enter the building or the bullpen unless you are sure the system is disarmed.
- Park all vehicles in the rear of the parking lot.
- Morning briefing are usually held in the fire bay.

Whitehall Work Center

- The bullpen is locked with a Yale key.
- Park all vehicles along the main road, W1st St.
- Morning briefings will usually be held in the warehouse.
- The lawn does have sprinklers, beware before camping.

Logistics

Most out-of-area resources are housed in Butte due to it being a larger town with more amenities.

Hotels:

The following list of hotels are recommendations, but not required.

Copper King Convention Center
4655 Harrison Ave
Butte, MT 59701
406-565-5001

Recently remodeled hotel with an in-house restaurant and bar. Free hot continental breakfast. Near to the Butte office and the airport. Away from most other amenities.

Hampton Inn Butte
3499 Harrison Ave
Butte, MT
406-494-2250

Near the Butte office and near a few restaurants.

Best Western Plus Butte Plaza Inn
2900 Harrison Ave
Butte, MT 59701
406-494-3500

Hotel is near I-90 with an attached restaurant and lounge. Free hot continental breakfast. A few other restaurants are within walking distance.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Butte
2609 Harrison Ave
Butte, MT 59701
406-782-2000

Newer hotel located near I-90. Free hot continental breakfast. A few fast food restaurants are within walking distance.

Due to this legacy, there are several mine reclamation projects in the area and many abandoned mines throughout the district.

The Butte Ranger District has direct protection on all FS lands within the district boundary and most adjacent BLM lands. FS resources are also commonly used for mutual aid with all three counties.

Weather

The Continental Divide exerts a marked influence on the climate of adjacent areas. On the west of the Divide temperatures are cooler , precipitation is more frequent, and winds are lighter. The east side is usually much warmer and receives less moisture. The valleys around Whitehall are typically snow-free for most of the winter.

Most of the forest tends to have a bi-modal season. The lower valleys and mid-slope Douglas-fir type fuels are available to burn as soon as snow is gone. Spring rains in May and June start the green-up. Then fuels become available again in July through October. High elevation Lodgepole pine and Sub-alpine fir vegetation types don't usually become available until late August into October.

Butte Average Weather

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct
Mean High (F)	44	52	61	70	81	80	68	55
Mean low (F)	19	26	34	41	46	44	36	27
Mean Precip (in)	0.76	1.17	2.08	2.26	1.35	1.36	1	0.78
Snowfall (in)	11	7	4	0	0	0	1	4

Whitehall Average Weather

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct
Mean High (F)	43	57	65	72	84	83	71	60
Mean low (F)	19	30	38	44	49	48	40	31
Mean Precip (in)	0.5	0.8	1.8	2	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.5
Snowfall (in)	5.4	2.8	0.7	0	0	0	0.7	1.5

Fire weather for the district comes from the Missoula National Weather Service office. **The east side of the district is in fire zone 111 and the west side is in zone 110**.

- Operational resources (crews, engines, dozer, etc..) should go through dispatch. Logistical needs should go through the duty officer unless a logistics section is in place.
- For meals, plan to be self-sufficient for at least 24hrs or more.
- If a stagging area or camp is needed on private land, notify the D.O. immediately. A Land Use Agreement (LUA) will be needed.
- All free flowing water in Montana is state-owned. You don't need an LUA for the water, but may need one for the access.

Aircraft:

- A/G 29 will be the primary A/G for the district unless notified elsewise.
- Our forest helicopter, 4MA, is a T3 based out of Wise River.
- When using helicopters, ensure you have a water source nearby. Also, Buckets will need to be sanitized when used across the Continental Divide.
- All perennial riparian areas have been identified as retardant avoidance areas. The district also has some historic sites identified. The retardant avoidance map is available in the district map folder.
- If a known retardant incursion has happened, notify the D.O. immediately.

Hazards:

- SNAGS. In lodgepole pine stands, expect 50-70% standing dead. Most of these snags have been dead for 5+ years and have very little root system left. These snags may look and sound solid but will fall over with very little wind.
- In stands where most of the snags have fallen, the remaining green trees will be susceptible to wind throw. Avoid the lodgepole in high winds.
- Grizzly bears. Bears are very numerous on the adjacent Madison Ranger District and there have been confirmed sighting on this district. Follow all bear food storage protocols.

Aquatic Invasive Species:

- When drafting, use screens on all foot-valves.
- Do not transport drafted water across the Continental Divide.
- Sanitize tanks and drafting equipment after use.
- As soon as possible drain drafted water and refill using municipal water.

Operations

Hours:

0700-1930. Hours may change based on current situation.
Briefing Time: 0930
0700-0930 will be for resources to take care of breakfast, lunch and do physical training.

Daily Operations:

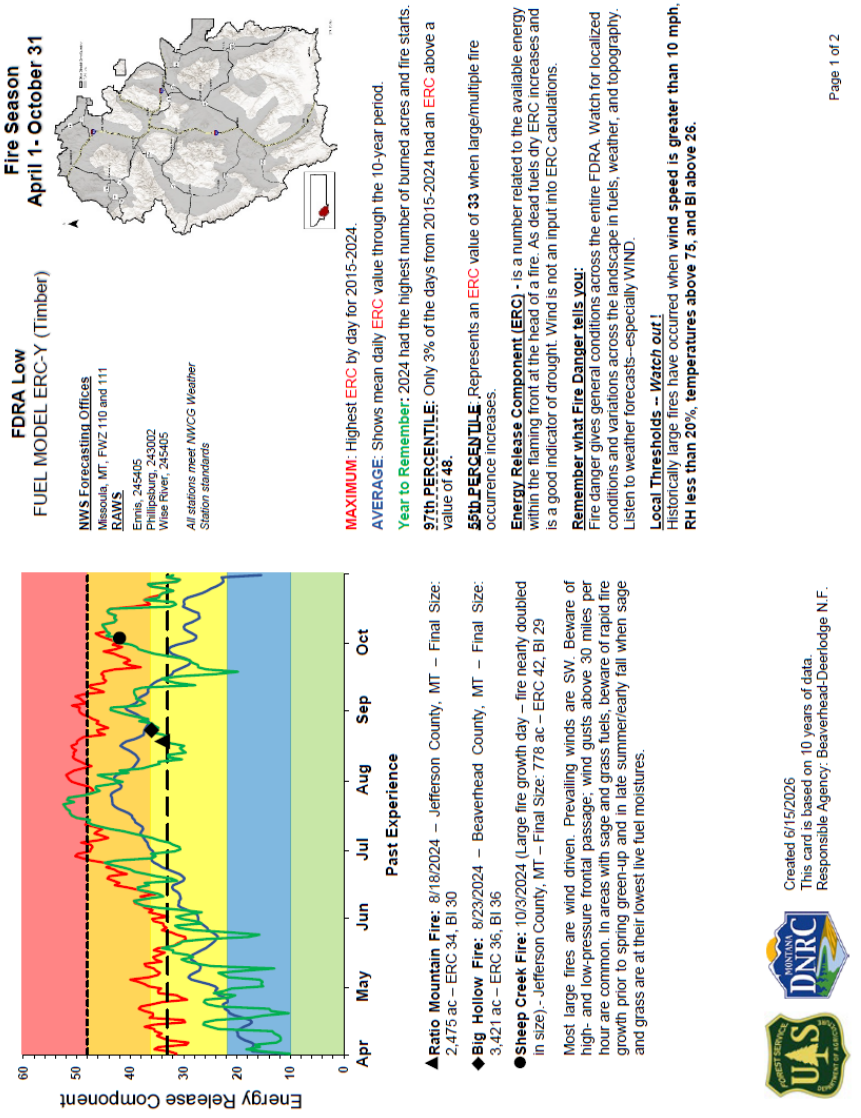
- Depending on the situation, resources may be used for district project work, or patrolling.
- Resources will check in with Dillon Dispatch as they leave the station and as they move around the district.

Initial Attack Operations:

- Resources will be assigned to incidents by dispatch or directly by the Duty Officer.
- When arriving on scene, resources will provide a brief size-up immediately and follow-up with a detailed size-up as soon as possible. If you are the first resource on scene, you will need to name the incident.
- Coordinates will need to be in WGS84 datum in the Degree, decimal minutes format. Ex. N 45° 40.231 by W 120° 25.851
- If you are the first on scene **Take Charge.** If a higher level IC is needed, order one. If the fire is not our protection, transition the incident command to the protection agency when they arrive on scene.
- Ensure all resources receive a thorough briefing.
- Incident Commanders will complete an incident organizer for every incident.
- If on a mutual aid incident or working with cooperators expect to use "Red" for tactical communications.
- Ensure that all human caused fires or fires of unknown cause have the point of origin protected and a fire investigator is ordered through dispatch.
- Fires will not be left uncontained without approval of the duty officer.
- If resources cannot be back in station by 2300, they will RON on the fire.

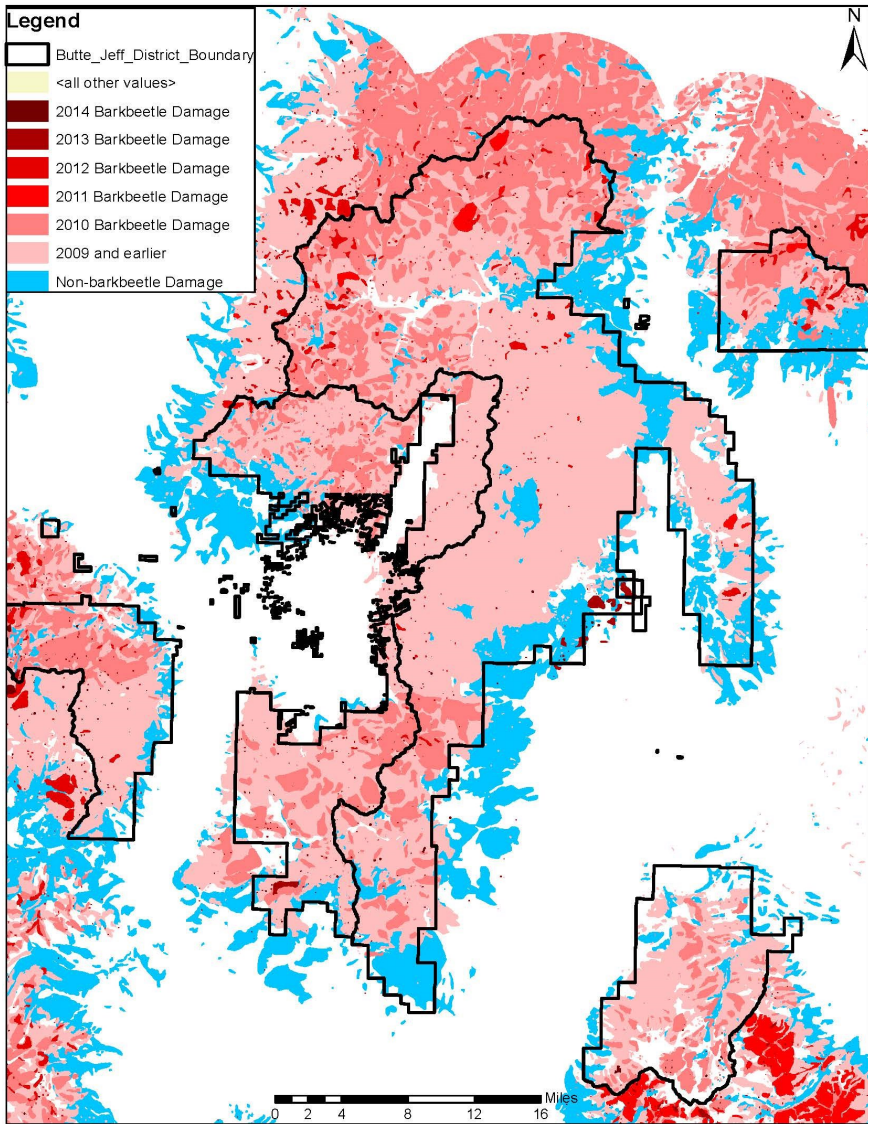
Ordering:

- Order what you need. Be specific and realistic on the date and time resources are needed.



Mountain Pine Beetle

The Butte Ranger District has seen widespread mortality in lodgepole pine due to the mountain pine beetle. The outbreak started in the mid-2000's north of Butte and has spread across the forest. There have been some blowdown events in the last few years, but most stands of lodgepole pine continue to have 50-70% standing dead. Pine trees dead for more than 5 years tend to have little to no remaining root system and can fall at anytime.



Fuels

There are four general fuel types on the Butte RD. At the low elevations fuels consist mostly of bunchgrasses and sagebrush. This transitions to Douglas-fir parklands with a bunchgrass understory. Mid-elevation and higher is dominated by lodgepole pine. Due to a large infestation of mountain pine beetle, most lodepole pine stands are 50-70% standing dead. Some of these stands have seen wind events that have caused massive amounts of surface fuel loading. Most of the district is in these three fuel types. A few high elevation locations (Tobacco Roots and Highlands) will have a mostly sub-alpine fir fuel type.