

Staff Ride

Resources



Wildland Fire Leadership Development Program

Blackwater Fire – Travel Directions

The Blackwater Fire site is located in the North Fork River corridor between the town of Cody, Wyoming and the East Entrance to Yellowstone National Park. Highway 14/16/20 is the only access to the site.

From Cody, WY

Take Highway 14/16/20 west approximately 35 miles to the Firefighter Memorial, located on the south side of the highway. Temporary parking at the memorial is for those just stopping to view the memorial. If you plan hike from here please use the trailhead parking area located next to the memorial, which has local information and a restroom.

From East Entrance Yellowstone National Park

Take Highway 14/16/20 east approximately 17 miles to the Firefighter Memorial, located on the south side of the highway. Temporary parking at the memorial is for those just stopping to view the memorial. If you plan hike from here please use the trailhead parking area located next to the memorial, which has local information and a restroom.

Highway Firefighter Memorial to Roads End (Lower Camp)

Road access to the Roads End/Lower Camp is down Forest Road 435 past the Blackwater Lodge. After crossing the bridge across the North Fork of the Shoshone River keep heading straight past the lodge and the corrals up a switch back. Travel approximately 1.8 miles to the roads end. This is a two-track road suitable for high clearance vehicles only (not suitable for sedans). There is minimal parking at the roads end. Shuttling participants and leaving excess vehicles at the highway trailhead are recommended. Travel along this road and the trail in wet weather is not recommended.

Roads End/Lower Camp to Stand 2

From the end of the road cross Blackwater creek either via the low water crossing or a single log bridge located just downstream from the low water crossing. Head up the trail approximately 1.25 miles to the junction of the West Fork and the main Blackwater creek. Trail 775 takes off to the right and the Memorial Trail crosses both creeks just upstream from their junction. The creek crossing has several routes depending upon water conditions. The main trail continues on the east side of the Blackwater creek. Continue another 1.25 miles to Stand 2, the third major switchback (see picture in Stand Descriptions or use GPS location).

Stand 2 to Stand 2A

Continue up the trail approximately 0.25 miles to where the trail reaches a ridge that allows one to view Clayton Gulch and Post Point (see picture in Stand Descriptions). If time is limited discussion of events can be addressed from this point without continuing further up the trail.

Stand 2A to Stand 3

Continue up the trail approximately 0.5 miles to Clayton Gulch memorial.

Stand 3 to Stand 4

The trail continues approximately 0.5 mile to the Post Point memorial. The trail from here is not heavily used and becomes very narrow and steep. Given the altitude this last section can be difficult if you're not in shape.