



Wyoming Historical Society

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2025

WYOMING'S INFERNO: BEAR WITNESS, SHARE YOUR SAGA

Wyoming Historical Society Seeks Personal Accounts and Photographs of 2024 and 2025 Wildfires to Preserve Wyoming's History

RIVERTON, WY – The Wyoming Historical Society (WHS) today announced a statewide initiative to collect and preserve firsthand accounts, personal stories, and photographs related to the significant wildfires that have impacted Wyoming in 2024 and 2025, including those currently ongoing

From the expansive Elk Fire and House Draw Fire of 2024 to the ongoing Red Canyon, Sleeper Ranch, and Spring Creek fires of 2025, these events have profoundly affected communities, landscapes, and the lives of countless individuals across our state. The WHS is dedicated to documenting these pivotal moments from an on-the-ground perspective, capturing the everyday stories, struggles, feelings, and factual observations of those directly involved.

The Society is urgently seeking submissions from anyone with a connection to these fire events, including but not limited to:

- Firefighters and emergency responders
- Individuals evacuated or otherwise displaced
- Landowners and lessee
- Ranchers and agricultural workers
- Medical doctors and all first responders
- Veterinarians
- Government agents and officials
- Volunteers and community support members
- Anyone whose life has been touched by the fires

"The 2024 and 2025 wildfire seasons have left an indelible mark on Wyoming. Beyond the acreage burned and containment percentages, there are countless human stories of resilience, loss, community, and courage," said Aley Philp, Wyoming Historical Society Executive Director. "We believe it is crucial to collect these personal narratives and visual records now, to ensure that the experiences of our citizens are preserved as a vital part of Wyoming's rich and complex history for current and future generations."

How to Submit:

The Wyoming Historical Society encourages individuals to share their stories, photographs, and any relevant documents.

- **Email Submissions:**

- Send to: everyday.stories@historythatswy.org
- **Subject Line:** Please title your email in the following format: WY FIRE (FIRE NAME) (YEAR) (e.g., WY FIRE RED CANYON 2025, WY FIRE ELK 2024).
- **Photographs:** Please ensure all photographs include captions and identification of subjects, locations, and dates where possible.

- **Mail Submissions:**

- Send to: Wyoming Historical Society PO Box 33 Riverton, WY, 82501
- Please include contact information and clear descriptions for any mailed photos or documents.

Important Note Regarding Submissions: By submitting stories, photographs, or any other materials to the Wyoming Historical Society, you agree that these materials can appear in and on any publications of the Wyoming Historical Society in support of their ongoing effort to document, preserve, and share Wyoming's history for current and future generations.

The WHS extends its deepest gratitude to everyone who has served on the front lines, supported their communities, and endured the challenges posed by these fires. Your contributions are invaluable to the historical record.

The Wyoming Historical Society sends its unwavering support and heartfelt care to everyone affected by these devastating wildfires.

About the Wyoming Historical Society: The Wyoming Historical Society is dedicated to fostering an appreciation of the rich and colorful history of Wyoming. Through publications, events, and educational programs, the Society encourages the preservation and sharing of historical information for the benefit of all.

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