



*NEWS
RELEASE*

Central Idaho Dispatch
Salmon - Challis National Forest,
Salmon Field Office, Idaho Falls
District, BLM
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Salmon, Idaho 83467



~~Public and firefighter safety is the highest priority in fighting all wildland fires.~~

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FIRE UPDATE

August 12, 2008

Cayuse Fire

The three fires burning in or near the headwaters of Horse Creek were active yesterday. The Woodhump Fire, which is in the headwaters of the Selway River just west of the Horse Creek divide on the Bitterroot National Forest, was the most active. It is over 1000 acres. The Cayuse Fire, three miles west of the Gattin Ranch, is between 50 and 100 acres. The Roan Fire is 10-15 acres. A ten person fire crew is working on fuel breaks focusing on the Gatin Ranch and Forest Service facilities at Horse Creek campground. To protect forest visitors from the current fire safety hazards associated with the Cayuse Fire, the Forest Service has closed the Cayuse Creek Trail #166, the Filly Creek Trail #165, and the Roan Creek Trail #203. All three trails are within the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. There is also a fire advisory on the Selway/Horse Creek Divide trail #158, on the Bitterroot National Forest.

Water Fall WFU

The Waterfall Wildland Fire Use fire continues to slowly burn in the upper Waterfall Creek area, about two miles east of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. The fire acreage, originally reported as 200 acres, is actually 134 acres. Two fire personnel are in the area to assess structure protection needs for three Forest Service trail bridges. They will also make public contacts in the remote area.

To protect Forest visitors from the current fire safety hazards associated with the fire, the Waterfall Creek Trail #045 has been closed from the junction with the Middle Fork Trail # 044 near the Big Creek Bridge up to the downstream end of Lower Terrace Lake. The entire Bighorn Crags area remains open to the public. Currently, the fire does not pose a hazard for float boat use of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. However, there may be some smoke in the area.

New Fire Starts

No new fire starts were reported Monday or Tuesday.