



**NEWS
RELEASE**



United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Salmon - Challis National Forest
1206 South Challis St.
Salmon, Idaho 83467

Contact: Sandy Kollenberg (Fire Information)
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Roaring Fire Spreads to the South

Roaring Fire – An aircraft with thermal imaging capabilities measured the Roaring Fire at 1334 acres last night. The fire, which started on July 26, is burning in the Frank Church - River of No Return Wilderness on the ridge between Roaring and Goat Creeks and above the confluence of the Middle Fork and Main Salmon Rivers. Most of the fire spread has been southward within the Roaring Creek drainage and away from the Main Salmon River corridor. Firefighters continue to monitor this fire and it is anticipated to contribute to smoke in the river corridors. At this time the fire is not impacting river use or camps. There is a possibility of trail closures in the future if the fire continues to grow.

With several other fires burning in Idaho and Montana, some residents may wish to check local air quality conditions. The air quality in our area has improved over yesterday and is currently at an Air Quality Index (AQI) of "Moderate". Moderate as defined in the AQI is that air quality is acceptable; however, for some pollutants there may be a moderate health concern for a very small number of people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution. To find out whether your air is healthy when it gets smoky, check <http://airquality.deq.idaho.gov/>. And for further information on air quality and your health, check https://www3.epa.gov/airnow/aqi_brochure_02_14.pdf

Hospital Bar Fire- This fire, which was burning on both sides of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River at Hospital Bar, is contained on the west side of the river. On the river's steeper east side firefighters are monitoring fire activity and helicopters are being used as needed to deliver water.

Thompson Gulch – The Thompson Gulch fire, estimated at 2 – 3 acres, is located at the head of Dahlenoga Creek between the Continental Divide Trail and Forest Road 079, near Big Hole Pass. This fire started on August 1 and is now contained. An estimated 35 personnel established hose lay into the fire's perimeter to extinguish the fire and were aided by two helicopters.

##End##