



**NEWS
RELEASE**



United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Salmon - Challis National Forest
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Salmon, Idaho 83467

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STEIN FIRE UPDATE AUGUST 19, 2016

SALMON, ID –The Stein Fire located on the North Fork Ranger District, is estimated at 124 acres, and is burning in subalpine fir and lodgepole pine. The reduction in acreage is due to more accurate mapping. The fire is located 15 miles north of Salmon, Idaho, between Stein and North Mountain in hazardous terrain that is steep and inaccessible with snags that are a safety concern for firefighters. The fire is staffed with fourteen smokejumpers, ten rappellers, three Type I Interagency Hotshot (IHC) crews, two Type II Initial Attack (IA) crews, one, five person hand crew, eight engines, three Type I (Heavy) helicopter, and five Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs). There are additional resources on order and Great Basin Team 3 (Rosenthal) will assume command tomorrow morning.

The Stein Fire was caused by a holdover lightning strike from Sunday, August 14th. Priorities for the managers are to limit fire growth to the west and south, in the Wagonhammer and Little Fourth of July Creek drainages. Firefighters are unable to go direct in the upper ends of the Little Fourth of July and Wagonhammer creeks due to steep, inaccessible terrain and safety concerns with the snags (a standing dead tree of part of a dead tree). Firefighters are using a direct and indirect tactics.

The fire is currently active on all sides with torching and spotting. Firefighters, with the assistance of aircraft, are working to hold the fire from spreading. Portions of the fire are in an old burn from 1992. Winds with gusts up to 20 miles per hour are a concern today for fire managers. The winds are forecasted to blow into this evening.

An Emergency Area Closure for Public Safety for the Stein Fire is now in place. The closure area includes:

- From Morgan Mountain, south along the Continental Divide Trail (CDT) #611 to its intersection with Carmen Creek Trail #6138 in Section 28, T 24 N R23E, BM, then southwesterly down Carmen Creek to the Salmon-Challis National Forest boundary line in Section 13, T23N R22E, BM; then proceeding northwesterly along the Salmon-Challis National Forest Boundary to its intersection with HWY 93 near Wagonhammer Spring in Section 27, T24N R21E; then continuing north along HWY 93 to the intersection of Sheep Creek Road #60077, then easterly up Sheep Creek Road #60077 to Morgan Mountain, the point of beginning.
- *Primary residence or Owners of the Private Property within the closure area are exempt from this order.*

All trails and roads included in the boundaries are **closed** due to the Stein Fire. The above-described area is within the proclaimed and administrative boundaries of the North Fork Ranger District, Salmon-Challis National Forest, Lemhi County, Idaho.

There will be a Community Meeting tomorrow night, August 20, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in Salmon at the Idaho Fish and Game office conference room on Highway 93 South.

For more information on the Stein Fire can be found on Inciweb at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4966/>. You are also welcome to visit the Salmon-Challis National Forest website: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/scnf/home>, and check out News & Events, 'Like Us' on <https://www.facebook.com/salmonchallisnf>, and 'Follow Us' on <https://twitter.com/SalmonChallisNF> for further information.

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