



Forest Service; Salmon-Challis National Forest
Media Contact: Amy Baumer
(Public Affairs Officer); 208-756-7853
SM.FS.SCFIREINFO@usda.gov;
Web: https://www.fs.usda.gov/scnf/
Twitter: @salmonchallisnf
Facebook: @salmonchallisnf

Fire Update

MULDOON FIRE UPDATE

August 19, 2020

The Central Idaho Dispatch Zone is at VERY HIGH Fire Danger.

Currently, No FIRE RESTRICTIONS on the Salmon-Challis National Forest

...RED FLAG WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT TODAY FOR SCATTERED THUNDERSTORMS...

On InciWeb @ https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6984/

Date of Detection: August 16, 2020

Current Size: 366 acres

Containment: 35%

Location: 20 miles southwest of Mackay; Lost River Ranger District

Cause: Unknown/under investigation

Fuels: Timber (lodgepole pine and fir)

Resources on Fire: 77 personnel

Table with 6 columns: Type I Crew, Type II Crew, Type I Helicopters, Type II Helicopters, Type III Helicopters, Engines. Values: 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 4

CURRENT STATUS: A local Type III organization is managing the fire. Firefighters continue to make good progress; the Muldoon Fire is now 35% contained. The fire was active yesterday with fire backing down slopes with isolated torching. The south side of the fire is holding the most heat, firefighters continue to construct line using assistance from aircraft to cool the fire's edge as needed and are working to tie the line into natural barriers. On the east side of the fire, handcrews have tied into natural features and continue to hold and improve the line with the support of air resources. Thunderstorms and strong winds resulted in a spotfire across the fireline, firefighters were able to catch and put out the spotfire.

Firefighter and public safety is the primary objective for the fire. The fire is in rugged terrain with presence of numerous snags. Today, firefighters will continue to hold and reinforce the fireline. Crews are progressing into the higher elevations of the fire. Aerial resources will continue to support the crews as the potential for roll-out increases in the higher elevations.

WEATHER: ...RED FLAG WARNING IN EFFECT FROM NOON TODAY TO 6 PM MDT THIS EVENING FOR SCATTERED THUNDERSTORMS...Scattered thunderstorms remain in the forecast this afternoon. A second round of isolated thunderstorms is then possible overnight. Near critical winds and relative humidity are forecast for Thursday. Record or near record heat is forecast to return this weekend as a ridge of high pressure builds back into the region.

CLOSURES AND RESTRICTIONS: No closures are in place for the Muldoon Fire. If you are recreating near an ongoing wildfire suppression operation, please keep your distance - do not congregate in the area and allow the firefighters to do their job safely and efficiently.

Interagency fire management officials in east-central Idaho will begin Stage 1 fire restrictions, effective at one minute after midnight (12:01 AM) on August 21, 2020. The Central Idaho Fire Restrictions Area encompasses all Forest Service lands (outside of the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness and Jim McClure Jerry Peak Wilderness) within the Salmon-Challis National Forest. Don't forget it is your responsibility to maintain and extinguish your campfire to prevent wildfires. Remember, if it is too hot to touch, it is too hot to leave; pour water and add dirt to your campfire until it is cold. One spark is all it takes to start a wildfire.

####



Forest Service

'USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender'