



**NEWS
RELEASE**



United States
Department of Agriculture

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

Contact: Barbara Bassler(Fire Information Officer)

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Goat Fire Update: August 12, 2014

DATE OF DETECTION: August 01, 2014

CAUSE: Lightning

LOCATION: The Goat Fire is burning in Goat Creek approximately two (2) miles from the mouth of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, North Fork Ranger District, Salmon-Challis National Forest.

Due to the extremely steep, rugged and inaccessible terrain and location of the fire, it is unsafe to place firefighters on the ground. Precipitation and water drops from helicopters over the past few days have aided in slowing the fire growth. Mapping shows the fire has covered approximately 469 acres of alpine fir patches along rock outcroppings and cliffs. Resources assigned include 25 fire personnel, four engines and one helicopter. A Type 3 team is transitioning today with initial resources and will take over management of the fire this evening.

Visitors are urged to slow down and watch for oncoming vehicles along the Salmon River Road and Panther Creek Road as there is increased traffic due to fire personnel movement within the river corridor.

The Goat Fire is being managed under a long-term plan focusing on firefighter and public safety. This includes monitoring fire activity and preparing a strategy for protection of structures and other values at risk as the fire area expands. A lookout has been established on the west side of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River and planned actions include prepping campsites along the Middle Fork.

While there is currently little smoke visible from the fire, this may change as the fire grows. Salmon-Challis National Forest Fire Managers expect the fire to burn throughout the rest of the summer or until a significant weather event occurs.

A trail closure is in place for the Horse Heaven Wilderness Trail (Forest Trail #6172) beginning at the junction with Forest Trail #6021, near Dome Mountain, heading northwest to the end of this trail near the Horse Heaven VABM (#8086), and continuing on the undesignated trail north to the Salmon River. The official order and map of the closure area and other information on the Goat Fire is available at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4056/>.

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