



**NEWS  
RELEASE**



United States  
Department of Agriculture

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

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August 24, 2015  
8:00 p.m. Update

**New Fire Start on Challis-Yankee Fork District, Salmon-Challis National Forest**

**Salmon, Idaho:**

The Eleven Mile Fire is located approximately 17 miles west of Challis, Idaho in the Yankee Fork drainage on the Challis-Yankee Fork District of the Salmon-Challis National Forest. The fire is estimated at 800 acres. Multiple resources are assisting with suppression efforts, including one Type 3 helicopter, one Type 1 helicopter, one large Air Tanker, six Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs), one Type 6 engine and one Type 2 Initial Attack (IA) crew. In addition, one load of smoke jumpers and one Type 2 IA hand crews (20 persons/crew) are on scene working the fire. Three hot shot crews and two Type 2 IA crews are on order. The fire is burning in heavy timber fuel. The cause of the start of this fire is unknown at this time.

Tomorrow's weather forecast predicts isolated dry thunderstorms. A Haines Index of 5 and 6 will remain. The Haines Index is used to indicate the potential for wildfire growth by measuring the stability and dryness of the air over a fire. The Haines Index can range between 2 and 6. The drier and more unstable the lower atmosphere is, the higher the index. A Haines Index of 5 means moderate potential and 6 means high potential (dry unstable lower atmosphere). Winds will be lighter; therefore there will be no red flag concerns from a wind/humidity standpoint.

As always, prior to making any decisions, public and fire fighter safety is of utmost importance. Information will be updated as soon as it becomes available.

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