



**NEWS  
RELEASE**

United States  
Department of Agriculture

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

**Contact:** Nancy Guerrero, Public Information Officer

**Phone:** 208-866-0238

August 25, 2015

**MIDDLE FORK COMPLEX UPDATE**

**Salmon, Idaho:** Currently, the Middle Fork Complex is comprised of the **Waterfall, Stoddard, Roaring, Harbor,** and **Alpine** fires.

**Dates of Detection:** **Waterfall:** August 11th; **Stoddard:** August 12th; **Roaring:** August 5th; **Harbor:** August 16th; and **Alpine:** August 13, 2015.

**Cause:** Lightning

**Size:** **Waterfall:** 4,006 acres; **Stoddard:** 867 acres; **Roaring:** 85 acres; **Harbor:** 5 acres; and **Alpine:** .1 acre.

**Location:** Frank Church – River of No Return Wilderness; North Fork Ranger District, about 40 air miles West of Salmon, ID. **Waterfall:** East of the Middle Fork Salmon River, North of Waterfall Creek; **Stoddard:** West of the Middle Fork Salmon River, North of Cradle Creek; **Roaring:** in the Big Horn Craggs; **Harbor:** adjacent to Harbor Lake; and **Alpine:** North side of Wilson Creek drainage.

**Fuels:** **Waterfall:** open timber and grass; **Stoddard:** open timber and grass; **Roaring:** open timber spreading into subalpine fir and white bark pine; **Harbor:** open timber; and **Alpine:** open timber.

**Managing Agency:** USDA Forest Service, Salmon-Challis National Forest

Due to a Haines Index of 6 today, the Waterfall, Roaring, and Harbor Fires were fairly active, with smoke as well as isolated tree and group tree torching. There has been growth on these fires; tomorrow we will have better mapping and acreage based on the infrared flight scheduled for tonight.

The Waterfall, Stoddard, Roaring, and Harbor Fires continue to be monitored by the two Wildland Fire Modules. These modules have provided the team with important information each day.

Wildfires are managed in different ways. Fires threatening people, property or resources are put out as quickly and safely as possible. Many landscapes are out of ecological balance; when conditions are right, fire is one way to help restore the ecological balance across the landscapes. These fires will be permitted to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological roles within the wilderness.

**Trail Closures for the Salmon-Challis National Forest** include: **Harbor Lake Trail (Forest Trail #6144)**, from Waterfall Trail (Forest Trail #6045) to Big Horn Craggs Trail (Forest Trail #6021); **Clear Creek Trail (Forest Trail #6022)**, which begins at the junction of Forest Trail #6025 and ends at Mirror Lake Trail (Forest Trail #6012); **Roaring Trail** (Forest Trail #6021, Craggs Trail) beginning at Big Clear Lake to Roaring Creek Lake; South Fork **Waterfall Trail** (Forest Trail #6019), beginning at the junction with Waterfall Trail (Forest Trail #6045) to its end; **Middle Fork River Trail** (Forest Trail #6044) to the confluence of the trail and the outlet of Terrace Lakes (where trail crosses headwaters of Waterfall Creek; **Stoddard Lake Trail** (Forest Trail #6140) beginning at Stoddard Creek Point at the junction with Stoddard Trail (Forest Trail #6169) to its junction with Forest Trail #6168; **Stoddard Trail** (Forest Trail #6169) beginning at the confluence of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River and the Salmon River, to its end at the junction with Forest Trail #6168.

*For closure maps, fire updates, and photos, please visit <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4485/>*

#####