



*NEWS
RELEASE*

Central Idaho Dispatch
Salmon - Challis National Forest,
Salmon Field Office, Idaho Falls
District, BLM
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Salmon, Idaho 83467



~~Public and firefighter safety is the highest priority in fighting all wildland fires.~~

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9:30 a.m., August 22, 2010

Banner Fire Update

Heavy winds pushed the Banner Fire northwest Saturday and increased the area to approximately 1000 acres. The fire is burning in steep, rugged terrain just west of Highway 21, 18 miles northwest of Stanley Idaho and five miles north of Banner Summit on the Salmon – Challis National Forest.

Highway 21 has been closed between Valley Creek Road north west of Stanley and Banner Summit because of fire suppression activities. Parties with launch permits for Middle Fork of the Salmon are being escorted through the area from the Banner Fire Command Post at Valley Creek Road.

Resources currently working on the fire include air attack, air tankers, six helicopters, five engines and 11, 20-person fire crews (six Type I and five Type II). A Type II incident command team is being briefed at 2 p.m. today and will take over management of the fire Monday.

Highway 21 has been closed between mile marker 105 and 116 because of fire suppression activities. The road to Boundary Creek road is closed. However, boating parties with Middle Fork of the Salmon River launch permits are being escorted through the area periodically from the Banner Command Post at Valley Creek road near the Highway 21 closure point northwest of Stanley. The Cape Horn road is also closed.

An area closure is in effect generally northwest and northeast of Highway 21 between mile marker 105 and 116. The closure includes the Lola Campground Marsh Creek trailhead and the surrounding areas.

Granite Fire

The Granite Fire 3 ½ miles west of Gibbonsville was reported Saturday afternoon. Two firefighters with an engine are working on the one acre fire near the Granite Mountain Look Out. Six firefighters and one helicopter have been ordered for bucket drops.