



Salmon-Challis National Forest Fire Update Wednesday, September 14, 2011



Contact Fire Information: 208.756.5177

OVERVIEW: The weather forecast for today calls for scattered thunderstorms through this afternoon with a cold front moving in Thursday. Temperatures on Friday should be cooler following the front.

Area closures remain in effect for the following fires: Saddle Complex, Salt, Velvet, Ship Island and Alpine. These closures are being monitored on a daily basis by local fire managers. Residents and recreationalists are urged to check area closures before traveling. For the most current information check [www.inciweb.org/unit 46/](http://www.inciweb.org/unit/46/)

PORTER FIRE: The fire area received about 2 hours of rain, beginning around 4 o'clock in the afternoon. It is approximately 40 acres in size.

Resources: 2 Helicopters; 2 Crews; 77 Total Personnel

Start Date: 12 September

Cause: Lightning

Size: 43 acres

SALT FIRE: Yesterday firefighters continued to hold and improve the lines on the north, east and western flanks of the Salt Fire. Light winds and cooler temperatures resulted in the slowest growth seen since the fire began on August 25 with total acres at 20,284. Today crews will patrol the containment lines to keep the fire within the existing burned area.

The area closure is still in effect. The Level 1 evacuation remains in effect keeping residents on alert for potential evacuation should fire conditions change.

Resources: 5 Helicopters; 17 Engines; 2 Dozers; 13 Water Tenders; 4 Crews; 328 Total Personnel

Start Date: 25 August

Cause: Lightning

Size: 20,284 acres

SADDLE COMPLEX: Yesterday crews constructed line from Quicksand Bog to Franks Ridge to prevent fire from encroaching on private property. Protection of Oreana Lookout was successful. Protection remains in place around Blue Nose Lookout.

Resources: 3 Crews; 5 Engines; 98 Total Personnel

Start Date: 10 August

Cause: Lightning

Size: 31,988 acres (Idaho: 16,557)

VELVET FIRE: There was little activity on the Velvet Fire.

Resources: 2 Total Personnel

Start Date: 12 August

Cause: Lightning

Size: 2,735 acres

To learn about how to better prepare your home to withstand a wildfire, go to www.idahofirewise.org. For more information on closures and fires on the Salmon-Challis National Forest, visit <http://www.inciweb.org/unit/46/>.

SHIP ISLAND FIRE: The fire was more active yesterday, particularly directly in the Ship Island drainage and in the south side of Ship Island Creek. Around 3 o'clock it made a large uphill run increasing in size by 130 acres bringing the fire to 2,071 total acres.

Today, firefighters will fly into the backcountry and launch on the Middle Fork River to float in the vicinity of Ship Island Creek. They will assess fire status and determine if any action is needed to insure safety in that area.

Resources: 1 Crew; 17 Total Personnel

Start Date: 25 August

Cause: Lightning

Size: 1,975 acres