



Salmon-Challis National Forest

Fire Update

Thursday, September 22, 2011



Contact Fire Information: 208.756.5177

OVERVIEW: Daily Fire Updates will be posted through 25 September. Beginning 26 September, updates will be posted weekly or in the event of a significant change. Warm dry weather conditions will continue through the weekend. The next front forecast for Sunday could bring gusty winds, isolated showers and thunderstorms.

- The current area closure around the Salt Fire includes the area east of Panther Creek, west of the Forest boundary, south of Williams Creek/Deep Creek Roads, and north of the Lemhi-Custer County line.
- The closure area around the Velvet Fire was lifted on Monday.
- The area closures around the Saddle Complex and Ship Island Fire remain in effect.
- Updated fire closure maps are posted on InciWeb.

SALT FIRE: Wednesday the fire continued to smolder and creep along the ground. Some low flames and single tree torching were observed in the immediate area of Woodtick and Salt Creek. Good progress is being made on rehabilitating the fireline. Remaining crews will continue to monitor fire perimeter and be available to respond to protect any values at risk if necessary.

Those traveling on roads in the fire area are reminded to be cautious and drive slowly. Heavy equipment and fire engines will be traveling those roads during fire suppression and rehabilitation activities. The larger vehicles and equipment require more room to maneuver corners and need longer distances to stop.

Resources: 3 Crews; 1 Helicopters; 7 Engines; 2 Water Tenders; 192 Total Personnel
Start Date: 25 August **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 20,536 acres

SADDLE COMPLEX: The left fork of Cabin Creek, the east side of Reynolds Creek, and the area below Blue Nose Lookout are still showing heat. This supports the decision to leave structure protection in place for both locations until a significant amount of moisture is received.
Removal of snag trees continues along Horse Creek focusing on areas where the road and the creek run parallel to each other. Individuals are stationed at both Oreana and Blue Nose Lookouts to monitor fire behavior.

Resources: 2 Crews; 58 Total Personnel
Start Date: 18 August **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 32,385 acres (Idaho: 16,709)

SHIP ISLAND FIRE: Forest Trail #030 to Ship Island Lake is **closed**. Parrot Placer Camp on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River also remains **closed**. Airplane, Shoban, and Sheepeater Lakes, and Waterfall Creek and Middle Fork Trails are all **open**. The **Alpine Fire** did not increase in size and remains at 20 acres.

Start Date: 25 August **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 2,301 acres

VELVET FIRE: Use caution when traveling within any recent burn area. Standing dead trees that have had fire smoldering in the roots can fall at any time without warning with even a slight breeze.

Start Date: 12 August **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 2,850 acres

To learn more 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 www.inciweb.org/unit/46.