

## **Red River Ranger District**

Originally established in 1915 as the first Ranger District of the Nez Perce National Forest, Red River combined with Dixie Ranger District in 1968 and then with Elk City Ranger District in 1998. The District now covers roughly 800,000 acres of the total 2.2 million acres of the Forest. Wildernesses make up 420,000 acres of the District, consisting of a portion of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness in the southeast corner of the District and over half of the Gospel Hump Wilderness in the southwest corner.

The Red River Ranger District of the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests is situated entirely within Idaho County, Idaho, and the District office is in the small town of Elk City at the east end of State Highway 14, up the South Fork Clearwater River. Four small communities interact and are within the boundaries of the District: Elk City, Red River, Dixie and Orogrande, with approximately 400 total year-round residents.

The Forest has a sizable fire workload inside and outside wilderness. The occasional large wildland fire adds to the summer management challenges!

Elevation changes are radical, ranging from just over 2,000 feet along the Salmon River to 8,938 feet at Buffalo Hump. The resultant climates are diverse.

Outstanding recreational opportunities abound on the district where numerous OHV trails draw users in the summer/fall seasons and groomed snowmobile trails bring in the winter recreation enthusiasts.