



**NEWS  
RELEASE**

United States  
Department of Agriculture

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



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July 10, 2013

**Salmon-Challis National Forest Fire Update July 10, 2013**

Salmon, Idaho –Fire Update:

**Papoose Fire:**

**DATE OF DETECTION:** July 08, 2013      **CAUSE:** Lightning

**CURRENT SIZE:** 40 acres

**LOCATION:** – Papoose Creek, Frank-Church River of No Return Wilderness, North Fork Ranger District. Approximately 41 air miles west of Salmon, Idaho

**AGENCY:** U.S. Forest Service –Salmon-Challis National Forest

The fire is burning in grass, brush, and timber. Four firefighters initially rappelled into the fire and were supported by water dropped from a helicopter. Due to the steep and rugged terrain and the rollout, which is burning material rolling downhill and igniting fuel below the main fire, the fire escaped initial attack.

Fire personnel have been inserted into the river camps closest to the fire on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. Priority camps at this time are Lightning Strike, Papoose, and Ship Island. Their objective will be to reduce the impacts of fire on the camps by employing a variety of tactics that could include building low impact fire line around the camps and removing ground fuels around standing trees. “These tactics reduce the impacts to river users and protect wilderness values,” said North Fork District Ranger, Russ Bacon.

No River Camps are currently closed at this time, however Middle Fork boaters should check in with Forest Service Personnel located at the Flying B Ranch for current fire and river information

Forest personnel are currently developing long term plans for this fire with a focus on firefighter and public safety as well as reducing the impacts to the Middle Fork Corridor.

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**Birch Fire:**

**DATE OF DETECTION:** July 06, 2013      **CAUSE:** Lightning      **CONTAINMENT:** 75%

**CURRENT SIZE:** 316 acres (reduction in acreage due to more accurate mapping)

**LOCATION:** Birch Creek; Bacon Ranch Vicinity – Salmon-Cobalt Ranger District. Approximately 17 air miles west of Salmon, Idaho

**RESOURCES:** Total Personnel: 167      **FUELS:** Sage and Grass  
Seven (7) Crews  
Two (2) Engines  
Two (2) Helicopters

**AGENCY:** U.S. Forest Service –Salmon-Challis National Forest

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