



United States  
Department of Agriculture

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

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Papoose Fire Public Information Office  
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August 7, 2013

**Wildfire Update: Papoose Fire**

**Date of Detection:** July 8, 2013.

**Cause:** Lightning.

**Size:** 9,486 acres.

**Location:** Papoose Creek, North-Fork Ranger District, about 40 air miles west of Salmon, ID

**Managing Agency:** U.S. Forest Service, Salmon-Challis National Forest

Activity on the Papoose Fire on Wednesday occurred mainly in the area of Big Hill. Flames are creeping through grass and brush, with some torching in small stands of timber. The Papoose Fire is a wilderness fire, burning in steep, rocky and inaccessible terrain above the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. A red flag warning has been issued for Thursday and Friday for scattered thunderstorms and lightning.

The fire has burned to the river in many places. Firefighters from Colorado's White River Fire Module are patrolling river campsites, removing ground fuels around camps and heritage sites, including pictographs. Firefighters are developing strategies to protect structures from the mouth of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River to Arctic Creek Lodge on the Salmon River, in the event the fire reaches them. An Emergency Area Closure is in effect for the Papoose Fire Area. The Closure Announcement is at [www.inciweb.org/incident/article/3510/19522/](http://www.inciweb.org/incident/article/3510/19522/). Previous trail closures have been rescinded and incorporated into the area closure, and Waterfall Trail and South Fork Waterfall Trail also remain closed.

**The 93-acre Falls Fire near May is now controlled and in monitor status.** The 16,358-acre Gold Pan Fire on the Bitterroot N.F. is burning about 35 miles northwest of the town of North Fork. The 20,325-acre Lodgepole Fire is burning about ten miles west of Challis. Emergency Area Closures are in effect for both the Gold Pan and Lodgepole Fires. Please visit [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org) for more information.