



United States
Department of Agriculture

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

Papoose Fire Public Information Office
Salmon-Cobalt District Ranger Station
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August 8, 2013

Wildfire Update: Papoose Fire

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

Size: 9,493 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

Growth on the Papoose Fire on Thursday was limited. Flames in the area of Big Hill are creeping through grass, brush and 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 remains in effect through Friday for thunderstorms and gusty winds.

Firefighters from Colorado's White River Fire Module are patrolling river campsites, removing ground fuels around camps and heritage sites, including pictographs. The fire has burned to the river in many places. Fire managers 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/. Previous trail closures have been rescinded and incorporated into the area closure, and Waterfall Trail and South Fork Waterfall Trail also remain closed.

The Elk Fire was initial attacked today by two firefighters delivered by helicopter, about 35 miles northwest of Stanley. The one-quarter acre fire is burning grass and sub-alpine fir, and containment is expected tomorrow. The one-tenth acre Elkhorn Fire was discovered Monday about 40 miles northwest of Stanley. The fire is unstaffed and in monitor status. The 93-acre Falls Fire near May is controlled, unstaffed and in monitor status. Smoke from the 16,412-acre Gold Pan Fire on the Bitterroot N.F. is drifting miles into the towns of North Fork and Salmon. The fire 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 for more information.