



**NEWS  
RELEASE**



United States  
Department of Agriculture

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

---

Contact: Amy Baumer (Public Affairs Officer)

208-756-5145  
or 208-756-7853

September 03, 2013

**Nez Perce Fire Update**

North Fork, Idaho –: The Nez Perce Fire was detected August 30, 2013 on the North Fork Ranger District of the Salmon-Challis National Forest. The Nez Perce Fire was started by lightning, is burning in grass and timber (Lodgepole pine, Douglas Fire, and subalpine fir) and is currently approximately 300 acres. The fire is located in the vicinity of Nez Perce Creek, up Dahlenega Creek, near Big Hole Pass, approximately 4 miles east of Gibbonsville, Idaho. Access to the fire is limited; there are no roads in the vicinity. Resources on the fire include: one Type I hand crew, three Type 2 hand crews, two Type I helicopters, and miscellaneous Overhead. The Nez Perce fire is currently being managed by a Type 3 Incident Management Organization.

Yesterday, fire activity was minimal, the fire grew 49 acres. Two Type I helicopters were used to hold the fire from crossing Nez Perce Creek to the east.

Today, crews are assessing and prepping values on the Montana side for potential protection. Aviation assets will continue to be used to hold the fire and keep fire west of Nez Perce creek.

Three trails and one road have been closed to provide protection to forest visitors from the current fire safety hazards associated with the Nez Perce Fire. Among the closures is the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail from Big Hole Pass to Hwy 43. Please go to <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/article/3715/21118/> for information specific to the closure including a map.

####