



Wildfire Fact Sheet

FIRE SUMMARY AUGUST 18, 2025

The Central Idaho Dispatch Zone is at **VERY HIGH** Fire Danger

There have been four (4) new fires reported on the Salmon-Challis National Forest since the last update on August 11, 2025. To date, there have been 45 wildfires reported on the Forest with 41 of the fires being declared out.

Owl (August 17): located approximately eight (8) miles northwest of Shoup. The 0.10 acre lightning fire burning in a snags, grass, and brush is out.

Cougar (August 17): located approximately 11 miles southwest of Shoup. The 0.10 acre lightning fire burning in a snags, grass, and brush is out.

Kadletz (August 14): located approximately 11 miles southwest of Lemhi. The 0.50 acre lightning fire burning in subalpine fir is out.

Twin (August 13): located approximately 5 miles southwest of Lost Trail Pass. The 0.25 acre lightning fire burning in fir is out.

Elkhorn (July 29): located approximately 33 miles northwest of Stanley. The lightning fire is approximately 1,082 acres burning on a cliff face adjacent to the Middle Fork of the Salmon River and approximately seven river miles from Boundary Boat Launch. .

Red Flag weather conditions including strong winds and low relative humidity contributed to an increase in fire behavior on the Elkhorn fire on August 13th. The fire has not crossed the Middle Fork of the Salmon River and remains on river right. There are multiple fire scars adjacent to the Elkhorn fire which will act as a natural barrier for this fire.

Firefighters are using a confine (confine involves restricting the fire to a predetermined area, often using natural barriers or fuel breaks) and a point protection strategy (A wildfire response strategy which protects specific assets or highly valued resources from the wildfire without directly halting the continued spread of the wildfire).

Values at risk for the Elkhorn fire include natural and cultural resources, and economic, environmental, and social values such as the Middle Fork River corridor.

Fire managers are using infrared flights supplemented with reconnaissance flights as appropriate. This strategy limits exposure to firefighters and maximizes firefighting resources for other wildfires that may be discovered. The fire and updates can be found on InciWeb at <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idscf-elkhorn-fire-salmonchallis-national-forest>.

Cedar (July 29): located approximately four (4) miles northeast of Clyde. The 876 acre lightning fire is burning in Douglas fir and brush. The fire and updates can be found on InciWeb at <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idscf-cedar-fire-idaho>.

Artillery (July 29): located approximately 35 miles northwest of Stanley. The lightning fire is approximately 3.5 acres with minimal fire behavior. The fire is surrounded by rock and old burn scars which make it unlikely to spread outside its current footprint.

Firefighters are using a confine/contain strategy (confine involves restricting the fire to a predetermined area, often using natural barriers or fuel breaks. Containment refers to the completion of control lines around the fire, preventing further spread) to protect the values at risk.

Values at risk for the Artillery fire include private property, natural and cultural resources, and economic, environmental, and social values such as the Middle Fork River corridor.

Fire managers are using daily infrared flights supplemented with reconnaissance flights as appropriate. This strategy limits exposure to firefighters and maximizes firefighting resources for other wildfires that may be discovered.

Placer (July 27): located approximately seven (7) miles north of Indian Creek Guard Station. The lightning fire is 35 acres in a remote location in timber in steep, inaccessible, and rocky terrain with cliffs that make access dangerous. While the rocky terrain limits ground access, it also serves to limit the potential for fire growth. There are several notable fire scars in the vicinity of the fire including the 2000 Cottonwood, 2018 Kiawah, 2022 Norton, 2024 Birch, and 2024 Mowitch Fires which act as natural barriers to fire spread.

Firefighters are using point protection (a wildfire response strategy which protects specific assets or highly valued resources from the wildfire without directly halting the continued spread of the wildfire) and confine/contain strategies (confine involves restricting the fire to a predetermined area, often using natural barriers or fuel breaks. Containment refers to the completion of control lines around the fire, preventing further spread) to protect the values at risk.

Values at risk for the Placer fire include private property, natural and cultural resources, and economic, environmental, and social values such as the Middle Fork River corridor.

Fire managers are using daily infrared flights supplemented with reconnaissance flights as appropriate. This strategy limits exposure to firefighters and maximizes firefighting resources for other wildfires that may be discovered.

--MORE--

Weather: High pressure building in today will support the return of hot, above normal temperatures and dry conditions, outside of isolated showers and thunderstorms primarily this afternoon. Temperatures will peak on Tuesday with near record to record warmth expected. Afternoon relative humidity this week will be in the single digits and teens each day with wind gusts up to around 25 mph each afternoon. Monsoonal moisture building in by the weekend will lead to the return of shower and thunderstorm chances into early next week.

Ensure your campfire is dead out. If it is too hot to touch, it is too hot to leave! One Less Spark Means One Less Wildfire.

Nationally, there are 43 uncontained large fires being managed under a full suppression strategy and five (5) fires managed under a strategy other than full suppression.

Visit our website at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r04/salmon-challis>, 'Like Us' on Facebook @salmonchallisnf, and 'Follow Us' on X @salmonchallisnf.

####