



Consalus Fire

Priest River Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests

Fire Information 208-996-0980 2023.consalus@firenet.gov
<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/idipf-consalus-fire>
July 10, 2023

Location: 10 miles west of Coolin, ID, in Pend Oreille County, WA

Start Date: 6/30/2023 **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 189 acres **Containment:** 8% **Total Personnel:** 129

Equipment: Heavy Equipment Task Force, Dozer, Excavator, Water Tender, Feller Buncher, Masticator

Hand Crews: 3 + a district module **Engines:** 2 **Other:** Faller Module, Water Tender, Ambulance

A Northern Idaho Type 3 team, Incident Commander John Heyn (trainee Waylon Meek), took command of the Consalus Fire at 6:00 AM on Sunday, July 9.

Multiple hand crews, heavy equipment, and aircraft are engaged in fire suppression. Dozer line has been completed on the west and north sides. Crews are laying hose and installing water tanks with pumps along these lines. Heavy equipment operators completed a fuel break to the northeast of the fire along Forest Service Road (FSR) #1108. They will continue constructing a fireline east of the fire along a ridgeline and on the southwest side of the fire. Firefighters have laid hose on a portion of the west perimeter to use water and hand tools to cool the fire's edge, called mopping up. Fire personnel continue scouting for opportunities to construct lines around the southeast.

Helicopters and scooper planes dropped water yesterday to cool the fire's edge, allowing firefighters to continue safely engaging. Air resources will continue to support the crews on the ground with water drops as needed.

Standing dead trees (snags) continue to be an issue for firefighter safety. Crews cannot engage where the risk of falling trees is significant. A faller module of highly trained sawyers will begin to clear snags in some areas to make it safer for firefighters to continue to work.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Today's weather brings a slight chance of showers, with thunderstorms possible after 11:00 AM. Some of the storms could produce small hail and gusty winds. High temperatures will be near 86, with light and variable winds southwest 5 to 10 mph. The chance of precipitation is 40% with rainfall amounts of less than a tenth inch, with higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

CLOSURES AND SPECIAL MESSAGES

There is a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) over the fire area. For the safety of aerial resources and firefighters on the ground, please do not fly unmanned aircraft (drones) in the fire vicinity. **If you fly, we can't.**

While the following roads are not yet closed, please avoid them for firefighter and public safety. FSR #1108 from the junction with FSR #333 to the junction with FSR #659. The entirety of FSR #1094 (from FSR #312 to the junction with FSR #1108). FSR #312 from junction with FSR #333 to the junction with FSR #659. FSR #659 in its entirety. FSR #333 from Highway 57 to the junction with FSR #1108. Anyone accessing the Crystal Mine off FSR #659, please pull off the road, as heavy equipment and firefighting personnel must be able to get through. Please refer to the incident map for a visual explanation.