



Consalus Fire

Priest River Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests

Fire Information 208-996-0980 2023.consalus@firenet.gov
<https://tinyurl.com/consalusfire>

July 12, 2023



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

Start Date: 6/30/2023 **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 248 acres **Containment:** 10% **Total Personnel:** 186

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

Hand Crews: 6 + a district module **Engines:** 2 **Other:** Faller Module, Water Tender, Ambulance

Hand crews have been engaging the fire directly on the north and northeastern perimeter to secure the fire's edge and eliminate heat. Heavy equipment has been working up the east side to tie in with this work. Equipment operators will now look to build the most efficient line possible from there south to Consalus Creek. On the north indirect line, crews tested sprinkler systems, and sawyers continued to put in saw lines and mitigate hazard trees weakened by the storms. Heavy equipment will be shifted to the southwest side of the fire over the next several days to begin constructing fireline there. Fire managers are also assessing where to build a fireline on the southeastern side and looking for more opportunities to go as direct as possible.

The scooper planes and helicopter bucket drops were not needed yesterday with the higher humidity due to rain over the previous 24 hours. However, these resources will remain available as needed and as conditions allow.

Fire managers ordered a Remote Automatic Weather Station (RAWS) to place near the fire for more relevant weather forecasts. A RAWS gives firefighters more accurate intelligence and allows for better planning.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Today's weather will be partly cloudy, with a chance of sprinkles in the evening. Maximum temperatures will be around 81 degrees with minimum humidity 35-40 percent.

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.