



Midnight Fire

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest
Salmon River Ranger District

Fire Information Line - 208-935-6134

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/idncf-midnight-fire>

July 30, 2023

Location: Forest Service Road (FSR) #284 (Elk City Wagon Road) 1 mile east of China Point, 3 miles Northwest of Pilot Knob near Mountain House Site

Start Date: 7/10/23 **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 179 acres **Completion/Containment:** 25%

Total Personnel: 169 **Engines:** 2 **Dozers:** 2 **Forest Masticators:** 2 **Helicopters:** 1
Water Tender: 6 **Crews:** 2

CURRENT SITUATION

Crews are working on identifying heat sources and creating contingency lines. Efforts are directed at locating smoldering, burning, or spotting embers as temperatures continue to dry vegetation. Firefighters continue to expand holding lines and good progress continues to be made.

PLANNED ACTIONS

Fire personnel will continue to improve contingency lines which include utilizing existing natural features and enhancing existing roads and trails. The water tenders will continue to supply water to ground and arial resources in this rugged dry terrain. Two crews and an engine will continue to construct direct fire line to hold and secure the fire within its existing footprint.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Temperatures will range in the upper 70's with relatively low humidity on Sunday. Light winds will come from the northwest in the morning. There has been no new significant fire behavior on the Midnight fire however these continued dry conditions can contribute to extreme fire behavior by drying and preheating fuels.

Air quality information: [AirNow Interactive Map \(epa.gov\)](https://www.airnow.gov/)

CLOSURES AND SPECIAL MESSAGES

There are currently no closures in place, but firefighting traffic is expected to be heavy along FSR # 244 (Lighting Creek Road) and FSR# 284 (Elk City Wagon Road) between China Point and Lytle Cow Camp. Forests users are encouraged to slow down and use extra caution while with heavy fire traffic and dust on roads. Fire Management Officials urge the traveling public to please avoid this area both on the ground and in the air. We still have a long fire season ahead, please recreate responsibly.

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