



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 31, 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: 119 **Engines:** 2 **Dozers:** 2 **Forest Masticators:** 2 **Helicopters:** 1
Water Tender: 6 **Crews:** 3

CURRENT SITUATION

The Midnight Fire did not see any additional growth yesterday; however, the fire is spotty and there are still interior fuel sources. Good work and coordination continues along the contingency line as fire personnel work to implement plans for resource protection.

PLANNED ACTIONS

Firefighters will continue to hold, secure, and improve fire lines. They will continue to identify and control sources of heat and mitigate safety concerns. Approximately six miles of the contingency line remains to be constructed. The work on the contingency line is important because one ember could provide a new ignition source.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Little change is expected, hot and dry conditions will continue through Wednesday. Relative humidities will be in the low 20s, with moderate overnight recoveries. Winds are predicted to be light, and terrain driven.

The expected fire behavior remains similar to what we have seen in the past few days. It is described as moderate with smoldering, single tree torching, and group torching. As temperatures increase with the heat of the day so will fire behavior.

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

CLOSURES AND SPECIAL MESSAGES

Going outside this summer? Recreating responsibly and firewise is extra important this year. If you remember, we had a historically big winter, with a shift right into summer growing season. This means that even more potential dry fuel for wildfires. Let's all do our part to prevent wildfires. 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.

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