



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 27, 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: 192 **Engines:** 3 Wildland Engines and 4 Tactical Water Tenders **Dozers:** 2 **Forest Masticators:** 2
Helicopters: 1 **Retardant Tankers:** As Needed **Hand Crews:** 5 on scene including 3 Interagency Hotshot Crews

CURRENT SITUATION

A Wyoming Type 3 Team 3 has assumed command of the Midnight Fire. Heavy firefighting traffic is still expected to continue through the week on Forest Service Roads (FSR) #244, #284, and #1852 as resources continue to contribute to the suppression effort. Heavy equipment is being utilized to construct contingency line on FSR #1853 and #1855, and in Peasley Creek drainage area FSR #469 to #648. A fire camp is still established near McComas Meadows (Camp 58) to support the ongoing suppression efforts.

PLANNED ACTIONS

Direct attack, hand line and suppression efforts around perimeter of fire continues. Continued assessment of existing road and trail systems for heavy equipment use for construction of contingency line.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Partly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms in the morning. Cooler temperatures in the afternoon with terrain driven winds increasing in the afternoon. Minimal precipitation over the fire is expected. Fire behavior is moderate with torching, group torching, and creeping. Fire growth has been minimal over the last few days but could change with weather conditions. Air quality information can be found at: [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, while suppression operations are taking place. Fire Management Officials urge the traveling public to please avoid this area both on the ground and in the air. There is a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) in place over the Midnight Fire area for the safety of the aviation resources on scene.

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