



INCIDENT COMMANDER: Daren Turner - ICT3
Cody Crismore - ICT3(t)

Little Bear Fire

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest
Powell Ranger District
Fire Information Line - 208-935-6134

August 1, 2023

Location: Powell Ranger District- half mile northeast from Bear Mountain Lookout, about one mile south of Highway 12, and less than one and a half miles southeast from Jerry Johnson Campground

Start Date: 7/3/2023 **Cause:** Lightning **** Size:** 1046 acres *** Completion of Objectives:** 20%
Total Personnel: 16 **Engines:** **Helicopters:** **Hand Crews:** 1 Wildland Fire Use Module

CURRENT SITUATION

After a few days without any IR flights, this morning's showed updated acreage at approximately 1046 acres, burning downhill and cleaning up dead, down logs that have fallen since the 2012 fire. The Little Bear Fire was detected on July 3rd in steep and rugged terrain, with high density of snags from the Freezeout Fire that burned in 2012. Structure protection measures and fuel reductions have been taken around Bear Mountain Lookout, the upper Warm Springs pack-bridge, and the lower Warm Springs pack-bridge. Firefighters successfully completed additional protection measures around the upper Warm Springs pack-bridge with a small-scale burning operation. Fire managers and personnel continue to assess the area for further protection measures.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR

Hot, dry, and unstable conditions will persist through Wednesday (August 2, 2023). Temperatures will remain around the low-90s and low-100s until Friday (August 4, 2023), when temperatures will drop into the mid-80s. Once again, relative humidity recoveries will be poor through Thursday morning. There is a small chance for thunderstorms and rain going into this upcoming weekend. Fire behavior remains moderate, with flame lengths around 1-3 feet. Fire behavior could change depending on weather conditions.

CLOSURES AND SPECIAL MESSAGES

There is an official trail closure for National Forest Service Trail (NFST) #213 from McConnel Mountain Trail from its junction with Warm Springs Creek Trail #49 to the junction with the Bear Mountain Trail #21 or public safety due to the wildfire in the area. See attached map for official trail closure. Currently, there is no official closure of the Jerry Johnson Hot Springs area; however, fire managers advise that the public please avoid the area, if possible, due to the potential increase in fire behavior because of the continuing warmer and drier weather. Fire conditions can change rapidly- there is no infrastructure in place to notify trail-users if fire behavior increases.

**Attached Photo

Photo Credits: USDA Forest Service, taken by the Selway Wildland Fire Module (WFM) on 7/31/2023. Little Bear Fire, Powell Ranger District, Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest.