



# 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>

**August 5, 2023**

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**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:** 38%

**Total Personnel:** 147    **Engines:** 2    **Dozers:** 2    **Masticators:** 4    **Helicopters:** 1  
**Water Tender:** 5    **Crews:** 3

*\*Some forest resources are not counted in total personnel.*

## **CURRENT SITUATION**

Fire personnel continue looking for hotspots. With cooler temperatures and moisture, the fire behavior has been minimal. Work on the contingency line is slow but making progress. Water tenders will be on roads to help reduce dust on roads and support engines with water for the hose lays and to fill water tanks.

## **PLANNED ACTIONS**

Crews will keep working the fire within the current footprint in the Silver Creek Drainage. Work continues with full suppression where feasible due to steep terrain and hazardous snags. Firefighters will work to actively contain the fire while protecting nationally significant culture resources, timber, recreation, and other environmental and social values.

## **WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR**

Periods of showers and thunderstorms continue through the weekend. Temperatures cool considerably today with improved relative humidity compared to recent days. Winds will be light from the east. Chance of wetting rains through today and tomorrow are 80-90%. With cooler temperatures and moisture fire behavior has been minimal.

## **AIR QUALITY INFORMATION**

There has been an increase locally of smoke moving in from various other fires in the US and Canada. For more information on air quality, visit [www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov)

## **CLOSURES AND SPECIAL MESSAGES**

There are currently no closures in place. The Peasley Creek Drainage Road is open; however, motorists are encouraged to avoid the road if possible due to heavy traffic and dust. Firefighting traffic is expected to be heavy along FSR #244 (Lightning Creek Road) and FSR #284 (Elk City Wagon Road) between China Point and Lytle Cow Camp. Plan to take extra time to reach your destination. Reduce speed and turn your headlights on for safety.

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