




CLEARWATER FIRE UPDATE



Saturday, August 03, 2024

Clearwater Fire Information: 307-213-9458 8am-8pm *Phone service coverage may be limited*

2024.clearwater@firenet.gov

Quick Facts	
Fire location:	11 miles West of Wapiti, Wyoming
Size:	1,381 Acres
Containment:	0%
Personnel:	110
Start Date:	7/19/2024
Cause:	Lightning
Incident Commander:	Jon Warder, Wyoming Type 3
Online Links:	
Inciweb:	https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/wyshf-clearwater-fire
Shoshone National Forest:	http://www.fs.usda.gov/shoshone
Smoke and Air Quality:	Fire.airnow.gov
Wyo Roads:	www.wyoroad.info
Scan the QR Code for quick links to the Clearwater Fire:	
	

Summary: The Clearwater Fire started on Friday, July 19th, 2024 in the vicinity of the Elk Fork drainage. The location of the fire is in very steep and remote terrain that makes direct attack on the fire very difficult when ensuring firefighter safety. The fire cause was from lightning.

Firefighters conducted burnout operations in the Highway 14 corridor on Friday near the Clearwater campground to keep the fire from crossing north of the highway. A drone was used in conjunction with hand firing to secure this edge of the fire. Helicopter buckets were used to slow spread of fire to the west and within the Elk Fork drainage. Saturday, crews will continue to hold fire south of Highway 14 near Clearwater campground, and begin construction of fire line near the UXU ranch to limit fire spread further west from this drainage. Traffic safety in the highway corridor remains of utmost concern for the public and firefighters.

With reduced fire activity in the Elk Fork drainage, the Park County Sheriff rescinded closures on the Big Game Campground and the Pagoda Summer Home group.

Closures: Elk Fork Campground is closed indefinitely. Wapiti Campground, and Clearwater Campground are closed until fire conditions allow otherwise. These closures provide public safety and increased access for fire resources. A road and trail closure are in effect at NFS Road #424, Elk Fork Road and NFS Trail # 760, Elk Fork Trail. The purpose of this Order is to protect human health and safety from the Clearwater fire. More

information can be found: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/shoshone/alerts-notice/?cid=stelprdb5175892>

Weather | Anticipated Fire Behavior: The fire is burning through timber, brush and thick, dead and down fuels on steep slopes. Weather has been hot with low humidity. These hot temperatures will continue through the weekend. There is a chance of moisture next week.

Important Information: Risk to responders and public safety remain the highest priority for the incident management team. The Clearwater fire has not been the only fire contributing to the smoke in the air. Smoke from fires in Canada as well as Idaho and the Northwest have been a steady influence across the area for many days. Use the link above for 'AirNow' to check current conditions and try to plan your outdoor activities when air quality is at a tolerable level.

The Shoshone National Forest has also implemented Stage 1 fire restrictions, due to the very dry conditions of fuels and the likely continued hot and dry weather. A copy of the order can be found at:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/shoshone/alerts-notice>