



Morning Update – Wapiti and Frog Fires

Monday, September 23, 2024

Great Basin Complex Incident Management Team #4

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Special Updates: As a result of fire suppression efforts and vegetation removal, numerous trees have been cut into lengths suitable for firewood. Entering the fire closure to collect firewood is prohibited. The public may collect any firewood available outside of the closure with a valid firewood permit. Please direct questions on firewood collection to the Stanley Ranger Station at 208.774.3000.

Weather: Yesterday's fall weather was reminiscent of what will continue for the early part of the week. Wednesday, a chance of storms will enter the area. The chances for measurable precipitation are marginal. Fire managers will be particularly attentive to increases in wind speed which could lead to not only increased fire behavior but also cause burned and fire-weakened trees to fall.

Wapiti Fire Statistics	For More Information
Size: 125,478 acres Completion: 72% Total Personnel: 311 Location: near Grandjean, ID Reported: July 24, 2024 Cause: Lightning	InciWeb: https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idbof-wapiti-fire Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/wapitifireinfo2024 Linktree: https://linktr.ee/WapitiFireInfo2024 Interactive Map: https://tinyurl.com/WapitiFireInfoMap

Current Situation: Continued warm and dry weather is drying out grass and brush within the Wapiti Fire and allowing smolder embers to grow into more active fire. This has not led to any concerns of additional fire spread, as most of the activity is occurring within the existing fire perimeter. However, firefighters are continuously patrolling the fire area, including via aerial reconnaissance, and will quickly respond to any areas that may require direct suppression actions. Most of yesterday's visible smoke and flames were near Warm Springs and Cape Horn Ridge.

The Incident Management Team has updated mapping to show all areas where the fire is contained or suppression actions have been completed. Fire perimeter is only called contained or completed when there is strong assurance that the fire will not continue to grow beyond its current location. Among the areas now reflected as contained on the map are the portions north of Highway 21 within the Stanley Basin.

Removal of hazard trees continues near Stanley Lake, with larger logs being set aside for later firewood collection and smaller trees and limbs being processed with a chipper and distributed through the area. Large equipment is almost done repairing the dozer line constructed near Homestead Creek. Once that work is completed, the equipment will be transferred to work in other areas of the fire, including the Grandjean road repair.

Travelers along Highway 21 should drive cautiously, with lights on, and be prepared for periodic closures or pilot car usage. Along with firefighters, Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) continues to work along the roadway. The speed limit has been lowered to 45 mph between mile marker 92 and Banner Summit.

Evacuations: Evacuation status for Stanley Zone 1 is currently at READY. Stanley Zones 2 – 5 and Kasino are no longer in an evacuation status. Sign up for Custer County CodeRED emergency notifications: text CUSTER to 99411 or enroll at <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/BF28E45537FF>.

All Boise County evacuation levels have been lifted; residents should remain alert for any change in conditions which could reinitiate an evacuation status. Sign up for Boise County Alert Sense emergency notifications at <https://public.alertsense.com/SignUp/publicUser.aspx?regionid=1163>.

For evacuation information on the Wapiti Fire, please see the Custer County Sheriff's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/p/Custer-County-Sheriff-Idaho-61558947312289/>, and the Boise County Sheriff's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/boisecountysheriff/>.

Closures: The Wapiti Fire area closure covers portions of the Sawtooth, Boise, and Salmon National Forests. Please reference the map and description at <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-closures/idbof-wapiti-fire>. Recreationalists and hunters should reference this map and obey all posted signage regarding the closure area and any related road, trail, and campground closures.

An interactive map for all closures on the Boise National Forest is found at https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/642380b0eb124c8cab6bd9ad3d7146ad/page/Overview/#data_s=id%3AdataSource_5-1888bd00a2c-layer-13-1888bd00b53-layer-16%3A82.

Frog Fire Statistics	For More Information
Size: 3,112 acres Containment: 42% Total Personnel: 85 Location: east of Clayton, ID Reported: September 7, 2024 Cause: Lightning	InciWeb: https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idstf-frog Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/sawtoothnationalforest

Current Situation: Increase in fire activity occurred on the Frog Fire yesterday, and helicopters were again used to drop water in areas difficult for fire crews to successfully work in the steep terrain. A crew has begun working from the existing containment line on the east side of the fire towards the west. While additional containment has not yet been verified yet, the crews are successfully limiting fire spread. Additional crews have been ordered with in the intent of have them work along the northwest edge of the fire, above Big Boulder Creek to prevent the fire from spreading further north. Fire personnel continue to work in the East Fork drainage. They are evaluating the fire situation and are prepared to respond as needed to any sudden change in fire activity or intensity. Aerial surveillance of the incident has included drones capable of infrared readings to evaluate areas with the most potential for fire activity. These operators are also working from the roadways near the fire.

Evacuations: There are currently no evacuations related to the Frog Fire.

Closures: The area closure in place around the Frog Fire has been amended and now excludes FS Roads 669 and 670 and Trail 682. FS Road 667 remains closed as does trail 047 where adjacent to the closure boundary. Hunters and recreationalists should familiarize themselves with this closure information prior to entering the vicinity. Please reference the map and read the full closure description at <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-closures/idstf-frog>.