



# Morning Update – Wapiti and Frog Fires

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

Great Basin Complex Incident Management Team #4

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**Special Updates:** A Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Team will begin assessing conditions on Thursday to determine areas and critical natural and cultural resources that will require additional repair work. Impacts the BAER team could address include soil erosion, water quality, and fragile slopes above infrastructure and recreation facilities.

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:** Tuesday marks a change in the weather pattern with winds primarily shifting out of the southwest bringing warmer temperatures with valley highs possible in the 80s. Conditions will remain warm and dry for the foreseeable future. Strong southwest winds are forecast starting Wednesday afternoon and through midday Thursday. Wind gusts up to 30 mph are possible, with southwest slopes and elevations above 8,000 feet seeing the highest gusts. Fire managers will be attentive to the shift in wind along with the warmer temperatures and dry vegetation; plans are in place to respond to any increase in fire behavior on either fire.

Wapiti Fire Statistics	For More Information
Size: 125,479 acres Completion: 72% Total Personnel: 284 Location: near Grandjean, ID Reported: July 24, 2024 Cause: Lightning	InciWeb: <a href="https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idbof-wapiti-fire">https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idbof-wapiti-fire</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/wapitifireinfo2024">https://www.facebook.com/wapitifireinfo2024</a> Linktree: <a href="https://linktr.ee/WapitiFireInfo2024">https://linktr.ee/WapitiFireInfo2024</a> Interactive Map: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/WapitiFireInfoMap">https://tinyurl.com/WapitiFireInfoMap</a>

**Current Situation:** Crews have completed 84% of suppression repair on the 21.6 miles of hand line, 64% of suppression repair on the 25.2 miles of road used as fireline; and 52% of suppression repair on the 28.4 miles of dozer line, all of which was put in during suppression activities on the Wapiti Fire.

Equipment is on scene and a plan is in place to repair impacts to the Grandjean Road from the recent landslides. Dirt and debris will be removed from the roadway and hauled away, a process that is expected to take several days.

In addition to the steady progress made in suppression repair, crews are still actively engaged in suppression actions. Crews continue working hot spots in the Cape Horn area on the northwest side of the fire. The west side of the fire may see a slight uptick in fire activity today, particularly on southwest slopes. Anticipated activity is expected to largely remain interior of the fire perimeter as the southwest winds will push activity back into areas the Wapiti Fire previously moved through.

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](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: 120 Location: east of Clayton, ID Reported: September 7, 2024 Cause: Lightning	InciWeb: <a href="https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idstf-frog">https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idstf-frog</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/sawtoothnationalforest">https://www.facebook.com/sawtoothnationalforest</a>

**Current Situation:**

The slopes near the Frog Fire are somewhat sheltered from the forecast southwest winds; however, if winds shift to the west, it could funnel fire activity down into the Big Boulder Creek area. Additional crews are working on the Frog Fire, focusing on the west and east sides of the fire, moving north where handline can be tied into natural rock screes to assist in confining the fire.

Helicopters are playing a large role on the Frog Fire, shuttling crews into the rugged terrain as well as delivering meals and other logistical support for crews as they are camped remotely in areas along the Frog Fire perimeter.

On Monday a remote weather station was installed near the east edge of the fire above Little Boulder Creek and will provide the Incident Meteorologist and fire management with detailed weather information which will assist with forecasting and planning future suppression actions.

**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 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>.