

Morning Update – Wapiti and Frog Fires

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

Great Basin Complex Incident Management Team #4

Contact Fire Information: Phone: 208-593-7132

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Special Emphasis: Collection of firewood within the closure areas is prohibited; any firewood collection in open areas must be done with a valid firewood permit. For questions on firewood collection on the Sawtooth National Forest, please contact the Stanley Ranger Station at 208.774.3000.

Weather: Dry and warm conditions will continue today with winds picking up in the early morning and dropping off in the mid-afternoon. The possibility of precipitation in the near future remains very low.

Wapiti Fire Statistics	For More Information
Size: 125,758 acres Completion: 78% Total Personnel: 310 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: Crews on the Wapiti Fire worked hard to increase containment yesterday. Due to yesterday's northwest winds, there was increased fire activity and smoke in Big Meadows blown towards the fire's interior. Increased smoke was also seen below Copper Mountain and west of Bull Trout Lake. Hand crews and engines continued extinguishing any heat and securing line along the west portion of the fire. The successive warm and dry days have caused interior fuels to be consumed continuously and crews will pay close attention today as fire activity may again increase due to wind, especially around the south edge and the interior.

More hazard tree assessment of Grandjean was completed yesterday to remove standing trees with a high likelihood of falling. The trees were cut down then sawed into firewood-sized pieces. Stream diversion work will continue today. Crews will continue to cut down and clear out hazard trees along several roads in the closure area to ensure safe travel once they reopen to the public.

As a reminder, maps for the Wapiti Fire have been updated to better reflect the difference between containment lines and completion lines, since both strategies are in use on the fire area. Containment will continue to be shown as a black line along the fire perimeter; confinement will be shown as a brown line adjacent to the fire perimeter line.

Evacuations: Evacuation status for Stanley Zone 1 is currently at READY. All residents should remain alert for any change in conditions that may reinitiate an evacuation status. Sign up for Custer County CodeRED emergency notifications: text CUSTER to 99411 or enroll at https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/BF28E45537FF. 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-Challis National Forests. Please reference the map and description at https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-

<u>closures/idbof-wapiti-fire</u>. Recreationalists and hunters should reference this map and obey all posted signage regarding the closure area and any related road, trail, and campground closures. Fire managers and local forest officials are evaluating the current closure area for a reduction in size and scope once it is safe to do so.

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: 3,114 acres Containment: 77% Total Personnel: 46 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: Another day of steady progress was made on the Frog Fire; containment increased to 77 percent. Firefighters worked on securing existing containment lines and extinguishing any remaining heat on the southeast portion of the fire. Resources will continue to be pulled from the Frog Fire as managers right-size the incident to the appropriate number of personnel for the remaining work to be done. Today, firefighters will keep an eye out for any increased activity and remain on standby to respond appropriately.

A a single burning tree was discovered northwest of the Frog Fire yesterday. Crews were able to drop water via helicopter and dig line around the small fire. It was also surrounded by retardant from a past aircraft drop so fire managers feel confident it was from the more active burning days of the Frog Fire and see no significant threat to containment. It serves as a reminder to the fire crews to remain attentive to the whole fire area.

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

Closures: The area closure in place around the Frog Fire includes FS 667 (Big Boulder Creek Road) and Trail 047 where adjacent to the closure boundary. The closure excludes FS Roads 669 and 670 and Trail 682. 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. Fire managers and local forest officials are evaluating the current closure area for a reduction in size once it is safe to do so.