



Pioneer Fire Update

Tuesday, August 2, 2016

Fire Information: 208-392-9634 **Hours:** 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Acres: 42,031

Containment: 28 percent

Location: 8 miles north of Idaho City, Idaho

Date of detection: 18 July 2016

Personnel: 1,423

Fire hazards: Steep terrain, dry fuels, poor access

Structures threatened: 10

Damaged or destroyed structures: 3

Evacuations: 35 people

Cost: \$14,414,308

HOT SHOT CREWS	T 2 CREWS	CAMP CREWS	TYPE 1 HELICOPTERS (HEAVY)	TYPE 2 HELICOPTERS (MEDIUM)	TYPE 3 HELICOPTERS (LIGHT)	ENGINES	DOZERS	WATER TENDERS	MASTICATORS
5	34	5	4	3	3	51	8	13	5

DRONE INCURSIONS-- IF YOU FLY WE CAN'T. PLEASE DO NOT FLY DRONES IN OR NEAR THE FIRE AREA.

YESTERDAY – Personnel on the Pioneer Fire completed burnout operations along the Sunset Lookout Road that began on Sunday. Dozer activities and aerial operations continued along the north flank. New crews began arriving to replace crews who are gradually departing after fighting the fire for fourteen days. Fire managers continued to shift resources to optimize their effectiveness.

Firefighters built a containment line on the west flank and the area is in patrol status. Favorable winds enabled hand crews to complete a burnout operation from north of Mores Creek Summit to Sunset Lookout. This successful operation secured the stretch of line from Sunset Lookout to Pilot Peak and strengthened the south flank of the fire line that protects Idaho City. The fire moved into the old scars of two previous fires, which slowed the fire's progress. The 1994 Rabbit Creek scar along the southeast flank of the fire, and the 1989 Lowman scar to the northeast, will slow the fire as it moves to the east.

Aerial slurry and water drops, combined with dozer and hand crew work, minimized the fire's spread toward Lowman. Firefighters conducted a burnout on the east side of Burns Ridge and began plans to create a fire line to Highway 21. It has been confirmed that the Skyline yurt and an outbuilding of Stargazer yurt have been destroyed by the fire.

TODAY — The highest priority is to construct a fire line across Rock Creek to slow the north growth of the fire. Numerous helicopters will support the firefighters there, along with crews arriving from newly contained areas of the fire. Helitack operations will assist the line-building. Along the east flank, mapping specialists will conduct infrared flights to map the perimeter and locate any hot spots. Masticators and dozers will continue to excavate a line toward Archie Mountain. Structure protection crews are working in the Willow Creek area.

The first of three upcoming weather fronts arrive this afternoon, bringing strong winds that will shift unpredictably. No precipitation is expected until Saturday, as hot and dry conditions continue. Fire managers will create flexible plans that match firefighting techniques with the shifting humidity, moisture and wind conditions. They also are coordinating long-term contingency plans to ensure firefighter and public safety, while setting in motion plans for the forest's recovery.

The Boise National Forest has issued Order # 0402-00-41, Stage 1 fire restrictions that limit the possibility of starting a wildfire. Smokey the Bear says, "Make sure your fires are out." The area closure order can be viewed at fs.usda.gov/alerts/boise/alerts-notice and inciweb.nwcg.gov. Information is available at facebook.com/Pioneer-Fire-682201165260518/ and pioneerfire2016@gmail.com.

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