



Motorway Complex

Pierce Update 9

Motorway North Group

September 8, 2015

- **The Southwest Incident Management Team assumed command of the Motorway North Group at 7:00 a.m. today.**
- The ten fires within the Motorway North Group being managed by the Southwest Incident Management Team are:
 - Lost Hat Fire
 - Musselshell Fire
 - 535 Fire
 - Hemlock Creek Fire
 - Rocky Fire
 - Austin Fire
 - Pete Forks Fire
 - Yoosa Fire
 - Snowy Summit Fire
 - Green Fire
- Lost Hat is the closest of these fires to Pierce and remains about five miles east of town.
- All ten of these fires have shown no growth for several days and are not expected to grow in size. Monitoring will continue today.
- The management objectives for these fires are:
 - Prevent the spread of the fires to the west toward Pierce
 - Insure that the fires remain within the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest
 - Protect historic structures and cultural resources within the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest
- The Musselshell and 535 Fires have burned together. Control lines have been constructed around 90% of the perimeter of these two fires which are designed to limit their westward spread. The fire continues to back down to control lines. This minimizes the threat to Pierce from these fires
- Contingency lines, fire lines designed as a back up to the primary control lines, have been constructed west of the Lost Hat Fire. These lines will serve as additional protection to Pierce.
- Crews are constructing contingency line northwest of the Yoosa Fire. This will prevent the Yoosa fire from burning into the Musselshell and Lost Hat fires, providing additional protection to Pierce.
- Temperatures reached the mid-60s at the higher elevations and into the 70s at the lower elevations yesterday, while dropping into the low 40s overnight. Relative humidity will decrease throughout the week as temperatures rise, potentially reaching 90 degrees by Friday, creating the potential for fires to become more active toward the end of the week.