

FACT SHEET

Blue Fire

Red River Ranger District
July 5, 2015 8:00 a.m.



Information Officers: Ted Pettis and Shoshana Cooper

Contact: Via Email: bluefireinfo15@gmail.com

Office hours: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Incident: The wildland fire was started by lightning on 6/27.

Location: Four miles southeast of Dixie, ID.

Agency Jurisdiction: USDA Forest Service, Nez Perce–Clearwater National Forests

Cooperating Agencies: Idaho County Sheriff's Department

Incident Commander: Shawn Pearson, Northern Rockies Type II Incident Management Team (IMT). The Incident Command Post (ICP) is located at the old Dixie Guard Station and adjacent air strip. The IMT is implementing a full suppression strategy on the fire.

Current Size: 325 acres

Containment: 25% **Structures threatened:** 50 residences and 100 outbuildings

Status: The fire is torching and spotting in sub alpine fir & lodgepole pine with a large component of dead and down beetle-killed trees carrying the fire. The limited amount of access, huge snag numbers and extreme temperatures pose significant safety concerns to firefighters. Crews have sawed access trails, built two spike camps and two heli-spots, and created safety zones. Firefighters have completed necessary structure protection measures in the Comstock communities, which are approximately 1.25 miles from the fire. Crews and engines have been identified to assist the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests with initial attack for any new fire starts.

Yesterday's Activities: The fire made a 15 acre run west of Rabbit Creek late in the afternoon. An additional helicopter and air attack were requested to help contain it. Firefighters have cut a saw-line around half of the fire perimeter. Helicopters supported them with water bucket drops on hot spots. Crews completed a rough fuel break from the northeast side of the North Comstock subdivision down to Rhett Creek.

Today's Activities: Firefighters will continue constructing saw-line around the perimeter of the fire. Crews are working to establish a water source out of Rabbit Creek for mop-up and perimeter control. Helicopters will continue to support crews on the ground with water drops on hot spots flaring up near the perimeter of the fire. Firefighters will improve widening the completed fuel break near structures in the Dixie and Comstock areas.

Current Resources: **nine** 20-person crews, **two** engines, **five** water tenders, and **three** helicopters. Total personnel: **295**

Restrictions/Closures:

- An Area Closure is still in effect around the Blue Fire area on the Red River Ranger District for public safety. The Dixie and Comstock areas are in the Stage 1 'Ready' Protection alert notice that a fire is in the area. A temporary flight restriction (TFR) is still in effect surrounding the Blue Fire area. Contact the Red River Ranger District at 208-842-2245 for further information on the area closure.

For further information, including specific details regarding the Area Closure, visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov> and select "Blue Fire".