



# Motorway Complex

## Pierce Update 12

### Motorway North Group

September 10, 2015

- **The Southwest Incident Management Team assumed command of the Motorway North Group at 7:00 a.m. on September 8.**
- 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, the closest fire to Pierce remains about five miles east of town.
- All of the above 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
  - Ensure 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 surround approximately 90% of the perimeter of these two fires. The lines are designed to limit their westward spread. The fire continues to back down toward control lines. The threat to Pierce is minimized.
- 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.
- On the northwest side of the Yoosa Fire, crews are constructing control lines. This will prevent the Yoosa fire from burning into the Musselshell and Lost Hat fires, providing additional protection to Pierce.
- Temperatures will be in the low 80s in the valleys and mid-60s at higher elevations. Variable winds will be light (3-6 mph) out of the west. Relative humidity will decrease throughout the week as temperatures rise, potentially reaching 90 degrees by Saturday. A cooler and wetter pattern is forecast for early next week.