



Motorway Complex Update

<http://www.inciweb.nwcg.gov>

<http://www.facebook.com/centralidahofires>

Fire Information: (208) 507-2643 or (208) 926-4170

Email: motorwaycomplex@gmail.com

Thursday, September 3, 2015 - 8 a.m.

Motorway Complex (Slide + Woodrat)

Date Started: 8/14

Cause: lightning

Size: 18,527 acres

Containment: 25 %

Personnel: 493

Cooperating Agencies: U.S. Forest Service, Idaho County, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Department of Lands, Idaho State Police, Idaho Department of Transportation, Idaho County Light & Power, Clearwater County and Rural Fire Departments.

Jay Point Fire

Date Started: 8/17

Cause: lightning

Size: 3,742

Containment: 15%

Personnel: 82

Boulder Fire

Date Started: 8/11

Cause: lightning

Size: 4,274

Containment: 0%

Personnel: 33

Weather: Cooler weather moved into the fire area late yesterday afternoon, along with gusty westerly winds. Cloud cover and the cooler temperatures sharply reduced fire activity. Rain began to fall overnight and is expected to continue until about noon today. About a tenth to a quarter inch of rain is predicted. The cooler wet conditions will persist through the weekend.

Woodrat Fire: Firefighters continued work to secure homes along Highway 12. On the eastern side, crews extended direct containment line northward from the 5504 Road, and worked on mop up. Dozer operators also built line just below Lowery Saddle. Today crews will again work to improve control lines and build direct lines where possible. They will also scout the north and northeast parts of the fire, currently protected by dozer lines, looking for areas where line could be built closer to the fire's edge.

Slide Fire: The fire was again most active on its western edge near Johnson Creek. Crews and fallers looked for opportunities yesterday to build direct hand line in this area. They will continue constructing line today where possible, working cautiously in areas of dead standing trees. Firefighters will also work on direct line above Fenn on Telephone Ridge and on a slopover west of the main contingency line. Handcrews and heavy equipment will continue to improve fire lines along Johnson Ridge. Crews will also pull pumps and hoses from the west side of Fenn Ranger Station and relocate them to the O'Hara Bridge.

Jay Point and Boulder Fires: Scouts are determining where to build containment lines to direct both fires into wilderness areas, while protecting any structures or values at risk. Jay Point firefighters will work today to complete direct hand line from the 362 Road to the 5646 Road. They will also clean up containment lines and extinguish hot spots from the 362C Road to the 5646 Road. On the Boulder Fire, crews will complete prep work in Lee Creek and patrol Fish Creek drainage between Cache Creek and Highway 12.

Evacuations: The Syringa area -- from Suttler Creek Road down to Highway 12 and along the highway to Syringa -- remains under a Level II evacuation order. Residents are advised to leave the area, but if they chose to stay, should be ready to evacuate at a moment's notice. The Selway River Road is also at Level II. Lolo Hot Springs, and Fish Creek Road to its junction with Cache Creek Trail Road, remain at Level I, indicating evacuation could become necessary.

Closures: Revised closure maps and orders for the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests will be available later today. Because of widespread and severe fire activity, the forests have been under a total closure, with the exception of the Palouse Ranger District. The Selway River Road is closed except to local residents. Forest closures are listed at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/nezperceclearwater/alerts-notice>.