



Clearwater Complex Update



Thursday, August 20, 2015 8:00 a.m.

Facts at a Glance

Size: 39,200 total acres*	Date Started: 08/13/2015	Percent Containment: 30%
Personnel Assigned: 683 personnel	Equipment: 39 engines, 20 dozers, 33 water tenders	
Cause: Lightning	Aircraft Assigned: 4 helicopters	

Cooperating Agencies: Idaho Department of Lands, US Forest Service; Clearwater Potlatch Timber Protective Association; Lewis and Idaho counties; Nez Perce Tribe; City of Kamiah, Idaho Transportation Department, Idaho State Patrol, nine Rural Fire Departments

*Command of the Fisher Fire (21,640 acres) transferred to Mike Wilkins' Southern Blue Team at 8:00am on August, so it is no longer included in the Clearwater Complex acreage. Command of the Wood Rat Fire (2,806 acres) transferred to Kuisko's North Idaho Team at 8:00pm on Wednesday, so it is also no longer included in Clearwater Complex acreage.

There will not be a fire information meeting in Kamiah on Thursday. However, a public meeting will be held in Fraser today at 6:00pm at the Fraser Community Center.

Weather: Temperatures did not cool down overnight as in the last few nights. High temperatures today will range from the upper 80's to low 90's, relative humidity's will drop to 12-14%, and winds will gust to 18 mph. A Fire Weather Watch has been issued for tomorrow with winds expected in the 20 to 25 mph range.

Yesterday's Actions: Firefighters worked to mop up 100 feet in from the perimeter in the Lawyer's Canyon area. Structure protection groups continued to assess and respond to smoke and flame reports near residences in the area. Firefighters continued the work on the hay pile that is burning off of Hwy 162. Direct line construction was done from East Kamiah to Church Canyon to Kidder Ridge. Along Caribel Road (near Harrisburg Road) southeast toward Lolo Creek crews constructed line and mopped up hot spots. The Navajo Interagency Hot Shots worked in the Cottonwood Flats area building direct line. South of Greer and along Highway 11 firefighters strengthened and held the fire line. While working on mop up operations, crews continued assessing and responding to smoke and flare ups in the vicinity of structures.

Overnight, fire crews conducted a successful burning operation along the edge of Lolo Creek Canyon, northeast of Woodland that connected the Carrot Ridge Fire to the Lolo 2 Fire. This action consisted of a slow-moving backing fire that began backing down the canyon and has helped prepare the area for the higher northerly winds forecasted for Friday. According to Operations Section Chief Mark Goeller, the burning operation "did exactly what we wanted it to."

Today's Plans: Firefighters will mop-up and patrol the burnout area in Lolo Creek. Along Caribel Road (near Harrisburg Road) southeast toward Lolo Creek, crews will continue constructing direct line. Crews will mop-up along Forest Service Road 100 and construct fire line in the Church Canyon area. In all divisions of the fire, crews will respond to structure protection needs as requested. Air resources available today include two CL-415 "Super Scooper" Canadian air tankers that are stationed at the Lewiston airport and are available to support fire suppression efforts in northern Idaho.

Closures: U.S. Highway 12 and 11 remain open to all traffic, but may periodically have a pilot car moving traffic through the fire area.

Additional Info: We have an information center at the Idaho Department of Lands in Kamiah. Fire information and updates can be found at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov> or call either (406) 309-0371 or (208) 507-2621.

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