Clearwater-Municipal-Motorway North Complex

Pierce Update 6

Motorway North Complex

September 4, 2015

- The Southern Area Type 1 "Blue" Team is managing nine fires within the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest. Lost Hat is the closest of these fires to Pierce and remains about five miles east of town.
- The fires within the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest being managed by the Blue Team are:
    - Lost Hat Fire
    - Musselshell Fire
    - 535 Fire
    - Hemlock Ridge Fire
    - Footrot Fire
    - Pete Forks Fire
    - Yoosa Fire
    - Snowy Summit Fire
    - Green Fire
- All nine of these fires are moving toward the northeast, away from Pierce. One small spot was detected four days ago on the Lost Hat Fire west of Orofino Creek. A hose lay was established by hand crews and worked to mop up the spot. 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 80% 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 identified west of the Lost Hat Fire. These lines will serve as additional protection to Pierce. Construction of the contingency line is complete today.
- Open existing Forest Service roads to gain access to the Yoosa Fire and cut hazard trees for safety of crews and engines.
- The Weather forecast today indicates that the winds will remain generally westerly resulting in a continued easterly movement of these fires. Temperatures will be lower and relative humidity will be higher, with a 25% chance of wetting rain. These conditions should result in reduced fire activity.