



Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests

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Fire Update

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Minimal Fire Activity Observed on the Cedar Fire

Kamiah, Idaho (August 11, 2016) – The Cedar fire, burning in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, experienced minimal fire activity during the week. Diablo lookout recorded ¼ inch of rain in the last 48 hours and that, combined with cooler temperatures, has reduced smoke and activity in and along the fire's perimeter.

No noticeable change in acreage was observed and the fire size remains at 2,858 acres. A reconnaissance flight on Wednesday, August 10, reported very little smoke in the fire's perimeter. In the more mature stands of lodgepole no smoke was visible. Where the fire progressed approximately ¼ miles from FS Road #360, into the Bridge Creek fire from 2007, a small amount of smoke was observed but fire activity continued to be minimal.

Closures: Forest Service road #358, KoosKooskia road, Forest Service trail #30 (in its entirety), trail #45 (from the trailhead at the junction of road #358 to the junction of trail #30) and Forest Service trail #6, Cedar Ridge, remains closed for public health and safety due to wildfire .

The fire is currently not threatening life or property, but precautionary point protection measures in the form of sprinklers have been added to the Bridge Creek, Hoodoo Creek and Swamp Creek bridges. Long term management of the fire is planned to meet resource objectives and maintain the natural occurrence of fire in wilderness. The fire will continue to be closely monitored by ground and aerial resources to protect potential values at risk.

During active burn periods, smoke is visible from the Elk Summit road, the Powell Ranger Station and in the Bitterroot Valley. Fire managers will continue to monitor possible smoke impacts to communities and coordinate with air quality specialists as needed.

The July 17, lightning caused fire, is under the management of the Powell Ranger Station and is located 2 miles northwest of Elk Summit and 11 miles south of the Powell Ranger Station. The fire is burning in mature Spruce and Sub-alpine fir in the Cedar Creek drainage, Lodgepole Pine stands on the ridge tops, and Cedar in wet areas.

Fire and closure information will be posted on InciWeb at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4874/>, the Lolo Pass Visitor Center, Savage Pass, Elk Summit, the junction of the Forest Service road 358 and Forest Service road 360 and on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests website. For more information, please call (208) 942-3113.

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