



Selway Complex

Southern Area Red Team

Friday, August 28, 2015 8:00 AM



*****Fire Information Office, 877-367-9503*****
selwaycomplex2015@gmail.com
 Hours of Operation: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m

Back-ground/ Current Status	<p>The Baldy and Wash fires in the Selway Complex were caused by lightning strikes on August 10th and 13th in the Red River Ranger District of the Nez Perce National Forest near Elk City, Idaho. With dry conditions, gusty winds, steep terrain and a shortage of firefighting resources due to multiple fire starts and existing fires, the fires quickly grew. The Baldy Fire threatened homes in the Newsome area of Elk City and the northern edge of the Wash Fire imminently threatened historic Meadow Creek cabins. The Wash Fire is about nine miles northeast of Elk City. Management of the fires in the Selway Complex are under the direction of a Type 1 Southern Area Incident Management Team. The area is in a prolonged drought, which is expected to continue. Fires are expected to be active until a significant, season-ending weather event occurs, which may not occur until mid/late October.</p>	
Yesterday's Events	<p>Baldy Fire: Firefighters made good progress constructing dozer line along the 424 Road and other existing roads around the Baldy Fire. Structure protection measures are in place in the Newsome area.</p> <p>Wash Fire: Dozers completed line along Horse Ridge and made good progress along Green Ridge and the Anderson Butte National Recreation Trail. Smoke continued to prevent helicopter flights.</p>	
Planned Events	<p>Baldy Fire: Firefighters will continue to reinforce fireline along roads 284, 464, 1858 and existing trails around the Baldy Fire. Now that structure protection is in place in the Newsome community, structure assessment will begin near Elk City to prepare for any future threats to the community.</p> <p>Wash Fire: Firefighters will continue opening old fire contingency lines from the previous Slim's Fire on Green Ridge. The installation of hose lays will continue in these areas and along the Anderson Butte Trail.</p> <p>A public meeting is scheduled Saturday, August 29, beginning at 12 noon at the McGuire Cabin in Orogrande, Idaho. Members of the Southern Area Incident Management Team will offer information on the fires within the Selway Complex.</p>	
Fire	Baldy	Wash
Start date	August 10, 2015	August 13, 2015
Acres	2,220	31,608
% contain-ment	9	0
Crews	5	Listed on Baldy's numbers
Engines	9	Listed on Baldy's numbers
Personnel	268	Listed on Baldy's numbers
Restric-tions and Closures	<p>The temporary flight restriction in place over the fire area may be viewed at: http://tfr.faa.gov/save_pages/detail_5_8898.html. Several areas are closed due to fires in the area. For more information, visit the Nez-Perce-Clearwater National Forest web site: (www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/nezperceclearwater/alerts-notices).</p>	
Evacu-ations	<p>A Level I Evacuation Alert has been issued for the Elk City area, including Newsome, due to potential high winds and the potential for growth on both the Baldy and Wash Fires. A Level I alert means wildfire is a threat and it would be wise to consider planning and/or packing in the event an evacuation becomes necessary.</p>	
Fire Weather	<p>A cold front moving through the area may bring winds of up to 35 mph with the chance of wetting rains and higher humidity. Temperatures are expected to be 10 to 15 degrees cooler by tonight. Smoke Concerns: Air quality continues to be unhealthy. For more information on current air quality conditions, visit http://airquality.deq.idaho.gov/. For information about mitigating smoke related health hazards, visit http://idsmoke.blogspot.com/p/smoke-and-health.html.</p>	

