

Highline Fire Update

Payette National Forest

United States Department of Agriculture
500 North Mission Street
McCall, ID 83638



Contact: Kelly Woods, Public Information Officer, 208-789-6093

Date: Saturday, September 10, 2017

For More Information: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5500/>

Highline Fire Facts

Location: The Highline Fire and Goat Fire are both burning on the Payette National Forest, Krassel Ranger District, entirely within the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness (<https://tinyurl.com/y8qomgpm>), approximately 23 miles east/northeast of Warren, Idaho.

Date of Origin: July 28, 2017 @ approx. 7:00 p.m.

Cause: Started by lightning

Current Size: Highline Fire: 82,133 acres / Goat Fire: 788 Acres

Current Situation: The Highline and Goat Fires received spotty precipitation yesterday ranging from none to one half of an inch in a few isolated areas. The moisture and lower temperatures resulted in minimal fire activity in areas with lighter fuels such as grass. Active burning persisted in areas with heavier fuels such as blow down which are less affected by small amounts of precipitation. A community meeting was held in Big Creek for residents in the nearby area. Firefighters worked in the Beaver Creek area north of Edwardsburg to set up gravity fed sprinkler systems on bridges and at structures to provide protection should the fire advance into the area. Assessments were conducted at the Snowshoe Mine to determine what protection actions would be appropriate in the area. Fire managers were able to fly over the entire perimeter of the Highline and Goat Fires to see areas that had been covered in smoke for days. An infrared flight last night also provided key intelligence to those working on the incident. The fire has made its way to the Rock Rabbit Lookout where natural barriers and scabby fuels coupled with structure wrap on the lookout have protected the building. Forecasts for Sunday indicate a similar weather pattern to that of Saturday with a drier trend setting up Monday and Tuesday. Firefighters will be positioned at Big Creek to monitor the fire's movement to the southwest. A crew remains vigilant at Root Ranch monitoring the fire, ready to take action if needed. Resources assigned to the fire include one type 2 initial attack crew, one local hand crew, one light helicopter and multiple fireline leadership and support positions. A total of 76 personnel are assigned.

Fire Management Strategy: The Payette National Forest has selected a monitor/point protection fire management strategy as the fire is burning within the Wilderness and was started naturally by lightning. This management approach allows fire to play its natural role in the Wilderness to achieve ecological benefits for enhancement of forest health and wildlife habitat, while protecting Values at Risk. Suppression actions will be taken as needed to protect Values at Risk.

Closures and Restrictions: A Forest Area Closure is in effect for public and firefighter safety. Included in the closure area, Chamberlain, Cold Meadows, Soldier Bar and Cabin Creek Airstrips are closed due to fire activity. Please visit the following link for the Highline Fire Area Closure Order: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/article/5500/40016/>. The Payette National Forest is also under [STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS](#). [Click this link for designated sites](#) where campfires are allowed. If a site is not signed as being a designated site, then campfires are not allowed at that site. There are no fire restrictions in the Frank Church River or No Return Wilderness. For more information: <http://www.idahofireinfo.com/p/wilderness-fire-restrictions.html>.

For More Information: Follow the Payette National Forest on Twitter at [@Payette Forest](#), and on Facebook at [U.S. Forest Service – Payette National Forest](#). Subscribe to email updates via GovDelivery at

<https://goo.gl/R2fDJr>. If you have a question, please email us at payettefireinformation@gmail.com. Visit <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5500/> for more information on the Highline and other fires throughout the nation and www.idahofireinfo.com for information on fires throughout the state of Idaho.

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