

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 16, 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: 84,619 acres / Goat Fire: 818 Acres (No IR flight last night)

Current Situation: The Highline fire area received approximately .2 inches of rain yesterday and weather conditions were cold and moist across the fire. Sheepeater Lookout also reported .5 inches of snow at the lookout location and elevation. Fire behavior was minimal and composed primarily of burning out of heavy dead and down trees and smoldering in the duff and litter. The weather forecast calls for some drying and warming over the next couple of days with fire behavior possibly increasing by Sunday afternoon. Starting Monday, another round of showers may be possible with potential for snow down to 6,000 feet. Fire managers will continue monitoring the Highline and Goat fires, while assessing contingency actions that may need to be taken to limit fire growth from occurring in areas outside of the wilderness. Firefighters continue providing active point protection at Root Ranch while point protection for other values at risk close to the fire remain under passive protection measures. Resources assigned include: one type 2 initial attack crew; one local hand crew; one fire use module; one light helicopter; and fireline leadership and support positions. A total of 73 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 remains in effect for public safety for the Highline fire area. The Chamberlain Airstrip **remains closed** due to fire activity. Visit the following link for the Highline Fire Area Closure Order: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/payette/alerts-notice>. The **Payette National Forest is no longer under Stage 1 Fire Restrictions**. Forest users are reminded that forest vegetation is still very dry and to be careful with all use of fire in the outdoors.

For More Information: Follow the Payette National Forest on Twitter at [@Payette Forest](https://twitter.com/PayetteForest), and on Facebook at [U.S. Forest Service – Payette National Forest](https://www.facebook.com/USForestService-PayetteNationalForest). 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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