



**NEWS  
RELEASE**



United States  
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service  
Salmon - Challis National Forest  
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**ROARING FIRE UPDATE AUGUST 25, 2016**

**SALMON, ID** – The Roaring Fire, on the Salmon-Cobalt Ranger District is 3,662 acres. The fire is burning in a remote part of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness on the ridge between Roaring and Goat Creeks above the confluence of the Middle Fork Salmon and Salmon Rivers. This fire is adjacent to the 2014 Goat Fire and is being managed to allow fire to play, as nearly as possible, its natural role in wilderness.

The Roaring Fire is actively burning in the Roaring Creek drainage between the Bighorn Crags and the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. Progression to date is predominately south up the South Fork of Roaring Creek to McGuire Lake and west down Roaring Creek towards the Middle Fork.

Personnel at Long Tom Lookout is monitoring the fire daily. The fire is approximately one mile from the nearest river camp on the Middle Fork Salmon River. Fire managers continue to evaluate needs if the fire were to impact additional trails or river camps. In the upcoming days, fire managers do anticipate the fire will reach the Middle Fork Salmon River. At this time, no boaters on the Middle Fork of the Salmon or the Salmon River are being impacted.

Expect to see smoke drifting into the valleys and river corridors, especially in the evenings. Fire managers expect the fire to grow into the fall season. The next few days will see an increase in temperatures and lower relative humidity with no moisture or relief in the forecast until mid-next week.

The Salmon-Challis National Forest understands the inconvenience that fire, and the impacts associated with it, causes for people. But we can either deal with isolated pockets of smoke and short-term displacement such as trail closures today or long-term and potentially devastating impacts from fire in the future.

The impacts of escalating wildfire in many regions, the lives and homes lost, the expense of suppression and the damage to ecosystems, have led us to the conclusion that sustainable coexistence with wildfire is absolute. Climate change and continued development on fire-prone landscapes is and will continue to be a challenge. When recreating in the Frank Church River of no Return Wilderness travel plans should be flexible, current conditions should be known, as well as a safe place to go (a safety zone) when fires are burning.

An Emergency Trail Closure for Public Safety for the Roaring Fire is in place. The closure area includes:

- Bighorn Crags Trail #6021 from just northwest of Big Clear Lake (T21N, R16E Section15) to Dome Mountain at the junction of Trail #6021 and Trail #6172 (T22N, R17E Section18).
- Garden Creek Trail #6172 is also closed from Dome Mountain (T22N, R17E Section 18) at its junction with Trail #6021 to terminus at Horse Heaven (T22N, R16E Section 12).

For more information on the Roaring Fire can be found on Inciweb at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4976/> You are also welcome to visit the Salmon-Challis National Forest website: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/scnf/home>, and check out News & Events, 'Like Us' on <https://www.facebook.com/salmonchallisnf>, and 'Follow Us' on <https://twitter.com/SalmonChallisNF> for further information.

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