



## Salmon-Challis National Forest

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# Wildfire Fact Sheet

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### SHADY FIRE UPDATE

The Central Idaho Dispatch Zone is at **VERY HIGH** Fire Danger.

On Inciweb @ <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6433/>

**September 6, 2019**

**Date of Detection:** July 10, 2019

**Current Size:** 6,286 acres

**Location:** Two (2) miles east of Seafoam Guard Station in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness on the Middle Fork Ranger District

**Cause:** Lightning

**Fuels:** subalpine fir and lodgepole pine

**FIRE UPDATE:** Fire activity on the north and west side of the fire is moderate, which includes Vanity, Silver, and Fontez Creeks. On the east side of the fire in Bernard and Pinyon Creeks, the fire continues to smolder and creep. A Type I helicopter will be used if necessary to drop water on the fire. The purpose of the water drops is to moderate fire behavior and to slow the fire's forward progression towards values in the area. The fire has the potential to affect Vanity Summit and user access to the Seafoam area including Forest Road #008. Please check Inciweb and Salmon-Challis National Forest Facebook and Twitter feeds as updated information and new closures will be posted to those sites. The east side of the fire has burned to Forest Road #172. This road remains open, please be ready for rapidly changing conditions if traveling in this area and ensure proper travel preparations are made. Smoke has the potential to filter into the Challis area and the Pahsimeroi and Lemhi Valleys. Today, crews will continue to assess the areas with increased fire activity and will be informing visitors in the Seafoam area about potential impacts from the Shady Fire. *The Forest will provide fire updates and information as significant changes occur.*

Information on real-time air quality in the state of Idaho can be found at <http://airquality.deq.idaho.gov/>. Fire managers are urging the public to use caution when traveling in the vicinity of the Shady Fire as firefighters are in the area. In addition, they are urging the public to be aware of the many blind corners on the roads and please **slow down**.

Due to heavy fuel loading, active fire behavior, and the presence of numerous snags, firefighters have been unable to directly engage the fire. The Shady Fire is being managed with a point protection strategy (a wildfire response strategy, which protects specific assets or highly valued resources from the wildfire without directly halting the continued spread of the wildfire) to minimize exposure to fire personnel while protecting identified values. The strategy takes in to account exposure to firefighters, values at risk, impacts to area user groups, and wilderness values. Firefighters are monitoring fire progression towards values, with the priority of fire managers being to provide for firefighter and public safety while defending the identified values at risk. Specific values potentially threatened with this fire include mining and Forest Service infrastructure.

**WEATHER:** ...RED FLAG WARNING IN EFFECT FROM 1 PM TO 9 PM MDT TODAY FOR SCATTERED THUNDERSTORMS... While showers/isolated thunderstorms are possible this morning, a more organized round of scattered thunderstorms is expected to develop this afternoon (especially after 1 PM) with primary hazards of lightning and dime to quarter size hail, and secondary hazards of gusty/erratic outflow winds in excess of 45 MPH and heavy rain. A Red Flag Warning has thus been issued from 1 PM to 9 PM. While not every location will likely see truly wetting rains, those lucky enough to be directly hit by storms could see over 0.25 inches. Burn scars will need to be monitored for isolated flash flooding and debris flows. The cold front generating this activity is expected to cross the Central Mountains between about 4 PM and 8 PM, with storms ending behind the front, but westerly winds increasing to 10-20 MPH with gusts of 25-35 MPH through sunset, greatest at mid to upper slopes. A break with dry weather and light winds is expected Saturday, before another storm system with the potential for widespread wetting rains arrives Saturday night into Monday morning.

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**CLOSURES:** The Salmon-Challis National Forest has implemented the Shady Fire Emergency Road and Trail Closure, Order Number: 04-13-19-613. The road and trail closure is described as road #40012 (Sheep Mountain Road) beginning at the junction with FS Road #40008 at Seafoam Guard Station ending at Road #40172, forest trail #4005 (Sheep Creek Trail) entire trail, forest trail #4012 (Duffield Trail) entire trail, and forest trail #4023 (Bernard Creek Trail) entire trail.

The above-described road and trails are located within the administrative boundaries of the Middle Fork Ranger District, Salmon-Challis National Forest, Custer County, Idaho. This closure is necessary to provide protection to forest visitors from the current fire safety hazards associated with the Shady Fire.

**FIRES RESTRICTIONS:** There are no fire restrictions at this time. Forest officials are asking the public to be extremely careful when camping and to remember that it is your job and responsibility to properly maintain and extinguish all campfires. Remember, if it is too hot to touch, it is too hot to leave; pour water and add dirt to your campfire until it is cold.

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