



## GREENWOOD FIRE UPDATE – AUGUST 25, 2021

**Yesterday:** Cloud cover, lower temperatures, and increased relative humidity helped to moderate fire activity and growth. The fire is now estimated as 21,720 acres. Suppression operations expanded to the east and south in response to Monday's run. Stony River Grade, just west of the Forest Service Isabella Work Center, has been identified as the eastern holding line. Fire crews have also located a more secure fireline to hold the fire on the southern edge. Engine crews re-engaged in structure protection in the McDougal area and along the Highway 2 corridor. Tactical firing operations were conducted to protect structures and the Highway 1 corridor. Additional crews and equipment were ordered to increase suppression capacity.

**Today and Tonight:** Firefighters will conduct several defensive firing operations with the support of air resources, engines, bulldozers and other equipment, to reduce the burnable natural fuels near homes or near the edge of the fire. Crews will strengthen containment lines and continue building fireline where feasible. Logging equipment will be used to continue the shaded fuel break on the south side of Highway 1. This operation will selectively remove trees and brush that would carry the fire, while leaving many trees within the visual corridor along Highway 1. The Incident Command Post is scheduled to relocate to Babbitt to accommodate additional resources. The Isabella Community Center will continue as a Forward Operating Base for firefighting operations.

**WEATHER/FIRE BEHAVIOR:** Weather today is expected to be favorable for the planned firing operations with light winds, lower temperatures and relative humidity in the high 30th percentile.

**SUMMARY:** The Greenwood Fire was detected on August 15, 2021, around 3 pm on the Laurentian Ranger District. The fire is near Greenwood Lake and approximately 15 miles southwest of Isabella. The community of Ely is not threatened by this fire. The objective of fire management is full suppression using ground resources, heavy equipment, and aircraft. The fire is threatening cabins, homes, and recreational sites. The fire was caused by a lightning strike.

**SAFETY & EVACUATIONS:** Lake County Sheriff's office evacuation orders are in effect for McDougal Lake, Sand Lake, the Highway 2 corridor, and north of Highway 1 in the vicinity of East and West Chub lakes, Jackpot, Slate Lake and the Mitawan Lake Road area. For information regarding evacuations contact Lake County Emergency Management at 773-844-6449. You can sign up for emergency text alerts and calls from Lake County here: <https://www.co.lake.mn.us/emergency-management/>. The **Red Cross Shelter** moved from Finland to the Municipal Center in Babbitt for those who have been evacuated. If you have any questions, contact the shelter manager at (425-677-5776).

### CLOSURES:

- Hwy 2 is closed from Forest Hwy 11 to Hwy 1. Hwy 1 is closed from New Tomahawk Rd to Lankinen Rd.
- A Forest Service closure order is in place to protect public health and safety due to the Greenwood Fire. It extends across areas within the Kawishiwi, Laurentian, and Tofte Ranger Districts. To see the full Forest order and other alerts go to: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/superior>.
- A Temporary Flight Restriction for aircraft is in place over the fire area.

**AIR QUALITY:** Air quality alerts can be found at: [Air Quality Index webpage](#).

**FIRE RESTRICTIONS:** Fire restrictions are in place for the Superior National Forest and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for areas within state jurisdiction Cook and Lake Counties and northern St. Louis County. Superior National Forest: [Fire Restrictions Order](#) and our [Campfire Restrictions See our FAQ](#) for more information. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: [MN DNR Wildland Fire Information](#).

Greenwood Fire information on Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7805/>

Public Information Line: 218-499-9441 or email: [2021.greenwood@firenet.gov](mailto:2021.greenwood@firenet.gov)

Media inquiries: 614-205-9333

For all other fires on the Superior National Forest: 218-214-7844.

Facebook: Superior National Forest