



August 17, 2018
208-557-8813

www.fs.fed.us/ipnf
idahopanhandle@firenet.gov

There will be no Wildfire Update for the IPNF Saturday 8/18 and Sunday 8/19. Updates will resume Monday 8/20

There was one new fire yesterday, believed to be a hold-over from the July 27 lightning bust, this ¼ acre fire in on the St. Joe Ranger District.

Stage I Fire Restrictions: <http://www.idahofireinfo.com>

Forest Closures: www.fs.fed.us/ipnf

Inciweb: Five wildfires burning on IPNF lands have active Inciweb pages providing detailed information: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov>

RED FLAG WARNING IN EFFECT THROUGH 5 PM PDT THIS EVENING. Isolated dry lightning is threatening today with breezy wind conditions and low relative humidity.

Lakeview Community Meeting hosted by the Surprise Creek Incident Management Team last night informed 30 residents of all issues related to the wildfire. Children and adults alike were in attendance.

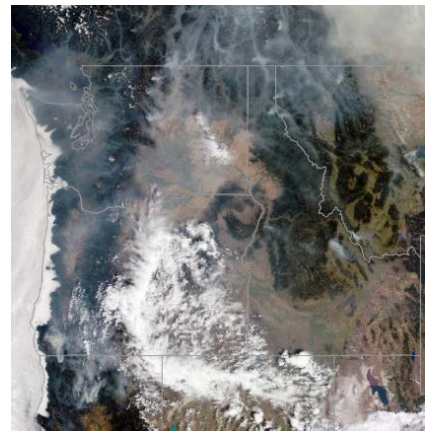
Smoke Dispersion: Unhealthy air will continue throughout the day. Some improvement for ventilation will be possible moving into the weekend. The air quality will be reassessed today based on these trends and upcoming weather conditions. Categorically the smoke affects the wildfire suppression in two ways: It inhibits fire growth causing slow, moderate fire behavior, and conversely, it causes for poor visibility negatively impacting Aviation resources ability to support firefighting efforts.

The Copper fire is scheduled for a transition today at noon to a District managed type 4 command structure.

The Rampike fire: Ground crews are building line between designated Research Natural Area lands on both the IPNF and Kootenai NF sides of the divide. Fire is still active in the 2006 Ulm Peak fire footprint. Large diameter fuels not consumed by the Ulm Peak fire are dead and very dry. These fuels are available to the Rampike fire allowing a re-burn through that old fire footprint. Kootenai and Idaho Panhandle Forest personnel are collaborating on the management actions of this fire.

Priest Lake Ranger District has 92 individuals working three small wildfires. The Divide fire is 6 acres, is fully lined but not contained. The Hungry fire is 10 acres and is contained. The Mush fire is estimated at 30 acres. Line construction is ongoing with hand crews and the anticipated use of a burn-out tactic to remove fuel between a stream riparian area and the existing fire.

Weather: A surge of monsoonal moisture combined with an approaching disturbance will bring isolated to scattered dry thunderstorms to the Idaho panhandle today. The threat will linger mainly south of I-90 in to the afternoon, storms will also become wetter with time.



<i>Uncontained Wildfires per RD by Name & approx. Acreage</i>		
Ranger District	Fire Name	Acres
Coeur d'Alene River	Rampike	2000
Coeur d'Alene River	Surprise Creek	2100
St. Joe	Snow Peak	42
Sandpoint	Cougar	5000
Bonnors Ferry	Copper Mtn.	182
Bonnors Ferry	Smith Creek	870
Priest Lake	Mush	20