



August 22, 2018
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There were two new fires on the forest yesterday. The Hudlow Fire, located north east of Hayden Lake, is a human-caused fire, and approximately 10 acres. It is on NFS lands, however IDL has protection responsibility and is managing initial attack. Two helicopters and 60 personnel are on scene. The Outlaw Fire, located on the St. Joe Ranger District, was one acre as of this morning. One engine, a 10 person module and a helicopter providing water drops were able to quickly contain the fire.

Stage I Fire Restrictions: <http://www.idahofireinfo.com> **Forest Closures:** www.fs.fed.us/ipnf

Inciweb provides detailed information from five wildfires currently burning on the Forest <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov>

RED FLAG WATCH IN EFFECT THURSDAY AFTERNOON THROUGH THURSDAY EVENING. Poor humidity recovery late tonight with gusty wind. Fire activity is expected to increase on Thursday with wind increasing.

A Community Meeting for the Cougar Fire will be held tomorrow evening at the Clark Fork Jr. /Sr. High School at 6:30pm.

Smoke Dispersion: Air quality is impacted across north Idaho from large wildfires burning in the area. Improved ventilation will be possible today allowing the air quality to oscillate at times between hazardous and unhealthy to moderate and good. The Alert status will be re-evaluated today to determine if it needs to be extended. Satellite Imagery source:

<http://ge.ssec.wisc.edu/modis-today> (Aug. 21, 2018)



The Cougar Fire experienced wind driven growth of nearly 750 acres along the northeast and southeast edges of the fire. Aviation resources worked to check the growth dropping water at the head of the fire growth.

The Surprise Creek Fire has crews working the southern boundary along the forest road #44 in efforts to complete the contingency line of roads that box-up the fire. Crews began on the forest road #332 along the east, then forest road #205 to the north, then the 332G road to the west and now the 44 road to the south. The fire is growing in a northeasterly direction. The Idaho Panhandle Hotshots have been reassigned to assist the IDL's Hudlow Fire. They will be then return to the Surprise Creek Fire.

The Rampike Fire was pushed by 35 mph winds Monday which caused the fire to spot in the Clinton Creek drainage. The spot fire is 10 acres, aviation resources will be assessing the growth and dropping water. The drainage is steep with snag hazards. Heavy equipment will be used to remove snags and create indirect line.

St. Joe Ranger District: Fire Managers will release the 12 Smokejumpers who initial attacked the Wisdom fire. Six District firefighters and a 10 person crew will remain on the fire.

Weather: Today and tomorrow will be warm with increasing smoke and haze. Breezy winds will continue into Friday and the weekend but are accompanied with cooler temperatures and higher humidity. There is zero chance of wetting rain today however a few mountain showers will be possible over the Friday and Saturday turning into a potentially wetter system by Sunday into Monday.

<i>Uncontained Wildfires</i>				
Ranger District	Fire Name	Acres	Personnel	Containment
Coeur d'Alene River	Rampike	2400	45	0%
Coeur d'Alene River	Surprise Creek	2631	63	20%
St. Joe	Snow Peak	42	n/a	n/a
St. Joe	Wisdom	3	n/a	n/a
Sandpoint	Cougar	6626	164	26%
Bonnars Ferry	Copper Mtn.	385	n/a	25%
Bonnars Ferry	Smith Creek	924	7	5%