



August 16, 2018  
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[www.fs.fed.us/ipnf](http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf)  
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There were no new fire starts across the Forest yesterday.

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

**Forest Closures:** [www.fs.fed.us/ipnf](http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf).

**RED FLAG WARNING** IN EFFECT FROM 11 PM THIS EVENING TO 5 PM PDT FRIDAY. There is an isolated dry lightning threat tonight and Friday morning. Gusty winds and low RH Friday afternoon are expected.

**Lakeview Community Meeting** will be hosted by the Surprise Creek Incident Management Team tonight at 5:00pm at the School House. All are welcome to attend.

**Smoke Dispersion:** No smoke imagery is available today. MODIS imagery did not capture the intensity of smoke inundation on the surface yesterday. Unhealthy air will continue to be common across north Idaho due to the large wildfires burning around the region.

**The Copper fire** is scheduled for a transition of command Saturday morning to a District managed type 4 command structure. Demobilization of crews and equipment are ongoing today. Resources are being re-assigned to other suppression needs across the Forest. At this time, nothing is going to the Mob-Center to wait for re-assignment.

**The Surprise Creek fire:** Thinning the east side of the Bunco Forest Road #332 with heavy equipment and crews assisted by the Idaho Panhandle Hotshots is anticipated to reach FS road # 205 today or tomorrow. The #205 road runs east to west along the northern edge of the containment work within the contingency plan. The Incident Command Post is moving to the Bonner County Fairgrounds as students in Hope will soon return to school.

**The Rampike fire:** Fire behavior is active within the 2006 Ulm Peak fire footprint. Managers anticipate the fire will burn through that area eventually reaching the more dense Hemlock stands. The fire has crossed into Montana, onto the Kootenai NF for approximately 1 ½ acres; it is headed toward a natural barrier of rock and scree, which is good news for firefighters. Kootenai and Idaho Panhandle Forest personnel are collaborating on the management actions of this fire.

**The Cougar fire:** Heavy Equipment along with ground crews have successfully cleared out the porcupine creek access. The heavy equipment has been released to the Surprise Creek fire. The Forest repeater on top of Lightning Mountain has been wrapped in fire retardant material as a precautionary measure. The Snow-Tell site on Bear Mountain is being considered for fire retardant material protection at this time. Currently there are no structures threatened.

**Bonnors Ferry Ranger District** continues to work on three fires started from lightning last week. The Divide fire in 6 acres with crews on scene. The Hungry fire is 10 acres and completely lined but not contained and the Mush fire is estimated at 20 acres with firefighters on scene and a crew from the Helena NF arriving today.

**Weather:** Warm and dry conditions will continue into the weekend accompanied by poor overnight humidity recoveries. There will be weak marine push this evening then a stronger one on Friday resulting in locally breezy to gusty winds. There will be isolated dry thunderstorms across the Idaho Panhandle tonight into Friday. In addition to lightning strikes, gusty winds will be possible. However, south of I-90 thunderstorms will become wetter during the day.

<i>Uncontained Wildfires per RD by Name &amp; approx. Acreage</i>		
<b>Ranger District</b>	<b>Fire Name</b>	<b>Acres</b>
Coeur d'Alene River	Rampike	978
Coeur d'Alene River	Surprise Creek	2000
St. Joe	Snow Peak	42
Sandpoint	Cougar	3454
Bonnors Ferry	Copper Mtn.	170
Bonnors Ferry	Smith Creek	835
Priest Lake	Mush	20