



August 26, 2018  
208-557-8813

[www.fs.fed.us/ipnf](http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf)  
[idahopanhandle@firenet.gov](mailto:idahopanhandle@firenet.gov)

No new wildfires were reported on the forest yesterday.

**Stage I Fire Restrictions:** are still in effect until at least Friday of the coming week. Fire managers will assess the volatility of the fuel conditions base on the changing weather patterns and precipitation received.

<http://www.idahofireinfo.com>

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

**Inciweb** provides detailed information for the five wildfires currently burning on the Forest

<https://inciweb.nwccg.gov>

**Fire Behavior** was light to moderate yesterday. The anticipated weather is the concern and interest of Fire Managers today. Season slowing or ending weather events typically happen in late August in the Northern Rockies. The severity at which these weather systems impact fire activity can vary. Often when such a weather events materialize in August, fuels dry out again as September high pressure systems move through. Yesterday's update discussed how the majority of fire growth on the Idaho Panhandle is from concentric growth off of the fire perimeter. Heavy fuels can hold heat through large amounts of rain and can ignite an adjacent log through conductive transfer of heat allowing the fire to continue to grow in acreage. Fuels are still receptive to ignition but not to the degree experienced early in the summer. As the summer turns to fall, days get shorter and night time high elevation dew points go up and moisture retention increases. Cooler temperatures are common. A flurry of wildfire activity could occur after Labor Day weekend, environmental factors will determine the intensity. Heat is likely to remain in these fuels for weeks to come.

**Heavy equipment** had been working on the Surprise Creek and Rampike Fires on the Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District. The task to thin fuels on the fire side of roadways has been accomplished. All masticators, feller-bunches and dozers have been released from these fires leaving ground crews with a defensible fuel barrier should the need arise to fight fire from the road.

**Crews and Engines** are staying where they are assigned for today and are available to be reassigned should an incident occur in the Zone.

**Infrared Imagery** was not flown due to excessive cloud cover.

**Weather:** A dynamic upper level disturbance is expected to bring wetting rains to the Northern Panhandle this afternoon and tonight. The added moisture will also result in temperatures around 15 degrees below normal for late August. Tuesday and Wednesday should be dry and warmer and locally breezy before another system brings some mountain showers on Thursday.

<i>Uncontained Wildfires</i>		
<i>Ranger District</i>	<i>Fire Name</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Coeur d'Alene River	Rampike	2750
Coeur d'Alene River	Surprise Creek	3028
St. Joe	Snow Peak	42
Sandpoint	Cougar	7570
Bonnors Ferry	Copper Mtn.	460
Bonnors Ferry	Smith Creek	951