



Bearskin Fire Update –Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Bearskin Fire Information: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5536/>

Boise National Forest Fire Information: 208-373-4105

Acres: 19,296 Acres Containment: 0 percent Personnel: 106

Resources assigned: 4 crews, 1 helicopter, 4 engines, 2 water tenders, 1 NIMO Team

Bearskin Fire expected to move toward Elk Creek Guard Station

BOISE, Idaho, September 5, 2017 – Yesterday the fire moved south and west toward Deadwood Reservoir. It backed down south of the NFS road 510 into the Warm Springs and Wilson drainages. A smoke inversion remained in place for most of the day and only partially lifted.

Crews made progress chipping the felled trees north of Deadwood Reservoir along the NFS road 555 (Scout Mountain/Deadwood Road) and NFS road 579 (Landmark to Stanley Road). Snags along the corridor are being removed for public and firefighter safety. Felling the trees and chipping helps reduce the heavy fuel load and enhances the ability of the roads to act as fuels breaks.

A red flag warning is still in place and hot, dry and unstable weather continues to dominate our area. Winds out of the east are expected for Tuesday morning, shifting to northwest winds by midmorning which may move the Bearskin Fire in the direction of the Elk Creek Guard station. An increase in fire activity is expected again today when the inversion lifts. Insect-killed dead and down lodgepole pine and subalpine fir remain between the fire and Deadwood Reservoir. The fire is less miles two and half miles east of the Reservoir and there has been limited spread into the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness on the northeast side of the fire.

Today, firefighters will focus their efforts securing and snagging the NFS roads 563 and 579. Contingency lines will be improved from the NFS road 579 and along the NFS road 555. Assessment of structures at the Bureau of Reclamation Deadwood Reservoir will continue. Other work includes looking for opportunities to limit fire growth and continued fuels reduction work around Deadwood Outfitters.

The Bearskin Fire area closure has been put in place for public safety and includes the Deadwood Reservoir area and all the campgrounds in the vicinity. The NFS road 582 through Bear Valley remains open at this time. The Closure Order and maps are available at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/boise/alerts-notices> or at Forest Service Ranger Stations, and posted on bulletin boards on roads into the Bear Valley area.

Effective today, the Clear Creek Road (NFS road 582 at MP 4.5) is closed from above the Long Creek Summer Homes north to the junction with the NFS roads 545/515 for culvert construction work for six weeks. Forest visitors will need to plan their trips accordingly; maps are available at Lowman Ranger Station (208-259-3361) and on the Boise National Forest website: [Boise National Forest - Maps & Publications](https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/boise/alerts-notices)

Stage 1 fire restrictions are in effect on public and private lands under fire protection of the Boise National Forest, Boise BLM and State of Idaho. Campfires are only permitted in developed recreation sites with an agency provided structure. Smoking is allowed in a cleared area of at least 3 feet in diameter, in a vehicle or in a developed recreation site. For specific information visit: <http://www.idahofireinfo.com/p/fire-restrictions.html>