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From: McKay, Tod G -FS [tgmckay@fs.fed.us]
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FACT SHEET

Moe Fire

October 2, 2012 1:00 PM

Contact: Public Affairs Officer: Tod McKay
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What: Wildland Fire
Cause: Lightning
Location: 15 miles west of Darby, MT. - Bitterroot National Forest
Jurisdiction: Nez Perce & Bitterroot National Forests

Current size: 2,500 acres (320 acres on Bitterroot NF) **Containment:** 0%

Summary: The lightning-caused Moe Fire which began several weeks ago on the Nez Perce National Forest in Idaho has now burned onto the Bitterroot National Forest in Montana. The fire began in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in very remote, rugged, and steep terrain.

The fire is currently located 10 miles west of Lake Como on the Darby Ranger District. It is burning in timber with some dead standing/beetle killed timber between Grizzly & Elk Lake. There are no threats to structures or property but as a result of fire activity, the Bitterroot National Forest is closing the Rock Creek Trail on the Darby Ranger District.

Closures: Rock Creek trail #580 into the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness is currently closed just west of Lake Como. Signs have been posted at trail locations to advise the public of the closure and fire activity in the area. The Lake Como Loop Trail #502 remains open.

Terrain: Extremely steep, remote, rocky terrain near the boundary of the Bitterroot and Nez Perce National Forests in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness.

Fire Behavior: Smoldering, creeping, active ground fire with some isolated torching.

Today's Plan: Monitor the fire activity daily by lookout and air patrol.

Special Concerns: A significant change from our recent dry and warm temperatures will occur Tuesday and Wednesday as a cold front moves into the area. Winds will increase this

afternoon and evening particularly at higher elevations with gusts to 30mph at the top of the fire. This will result in increased fire activity and smoke may be visible this afternoon and evening west of Lake Como. Winds will diminish through the night with a chance of rain showers on Wednesday.

For more information and to see aerial fire photos visit www.inciweb.org.

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