**Butler Fire**

**Future Management Considerations**

The Butler Fire is utilizing a full suppression strategy. Current fire suppression efforts include a combination of direct, indirect and point suppression tactics. The Butler fire is likely to continue to grow for another couple months even under a full suppression strategy. The reasons the fire can’t reasonably be extinguished sooner (and is not going to go out on its own) include steep, rugged and largely inaccessible terrain coupled with current and expected weather and fire behavior. Finally, the forest vegetation on all sides of the fire provides ample fuel for continued burning. Past experiences and climatology records for the Salmon River drainage suggest that it will be many weeks before the weather becomes sufficiently damp and cool to stop the Butler fire.

* There are extensive sensitive cultural sites. This limits management actions.
* There are logistical concerns – due to the remote location and number of resource required to manage this incident.
* There are no good holding features to the south of the fire due to alignment of topography and fuel conditions (high density from the 1999 Megram and 1977 Hog fire).
* Based on modeling and persistent fire spread, it could take three weeks for the fire to reach the first identified management action point to the south; which is the only opportunity identified to take effective action to stop fire spread.
* Probabilities of success are listed as low to moderate for management action points to the south.