



Pagami Creek Fire

UPDATE: September 1, 2011

TODAY'S MESSAGE: The Interagency Management Team has tentative plans to conduct a firing operation on the east side of the fire Friday, September 2 or over the weekend, pending acceptable weather. Reducing the fuels in this area will reduce the potential for the fire to spread outside the Wilderness boundary and threaten private properties to the north or to threaten the heavily-used Lake One and Lake Two areas.

Activities today include:

- Positioning crews and equipment to be ready for implementing the firing operation.
- Monitoring the fire with aerial reconnaissance.
- Continued mop up effort around the north end of the fire.
- Safety crews continuing to contact and inform Wilderness travelers.
- Establishing a portable sprinkling system along the portage between Lakes One and Two.

There are no imminent threats to public safety or private properties. There are no closures in place at this time. Wilderness travelers can expect a brief delay in portaging between Lakes One and Two during the firing operation. Visitors are asked to stay off Pagami Creek and to stay clear of the fire area.

The planned burn out is part of an overall strategy to keep the fire within the Wilderness while maintaining safety of the public, of firefighters, and safe access for Wilderness visitors while allowing the fire to serve its role in the ecology of the Wilderness.

Outlook: Weather and fire behavior forecasts for the next several days indicate little or no change in fire activity. Dry conditions are forecasted to return next week.

DATE OF DETECTION: August 18, 2011

CAUSE: Lightning

CURRENT SIZE: 130 acres actually burned

LOCATION: Township 63 N, Range 9 W, Sections 30, 31, 32: approximately 14 miles east of Ely (within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness) in the Pagami Creek area between the South Kawishiwi River, Clearwater Lake, and Lake One.

AGENCY: Superior National Forest, Kawishiwi Ranger District

STATUS: Fire activity has moderated due to high humidity and low winds.

SMOKE CONDITIONS: Depending on wind directions, visitors may see and smell smoke.

RESOURCES: Minnesota Interagency Incident Management Team B is managing the fire with approximately 103 personnel. Public safety crews are in place to provide contact with Wilderness visitors.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Phone (218) 365-3177

Internet: www.inciweb.org/incident/2534

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