



Pagami Creek Fire

UPDATE: September 3, 2011

TODAY'S MESSAGE: Tomorrow, the Interagency Incident Management Team plans to conduct a burn out in the area between the fire and Lakes One and Two. Reducing fuels in this area will decrease the potential for fire to spread outside the Wilderness boundary. Conditions for the burn are expected to be favorable with lower humidity and winds from the northwest.

For visitor safety, the two portages between Lake One and Lake Two will be closed for a period of time during the burn out. If visitors have travel plans including Lakes One and Two they are most likely to avoid delays if they cross the portages prior to 2:00 p.m. tomorrow. The portages will be reopened as quickly as possible. Public safety crews will be on site to escort paddlers.

ACTIVITIES TODAY:

- Crews will continue to monitor the fire while resources are positioned in readiness for the firing operations tomorrow.
- Mop-up will continue at the north end of the fire.
- Safety crews will continue to contact and inform Wilderness travelers.
- Fire information staff are notifying media and the public about the planned burn-out.

OUTLOOK: Drying trends are predicted into mid-September. There are no imminent threats to public safety or private properties. There are no closures in place at this time.

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 increased yesterday with smoldering, creeping and group tree torching.

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

Follow us on Twitter @inciweb