GRANITE FIRE COMPLEX

Hells Canyon National Recreation Area

**On July 29 two separate lightning-caused fires started on the Hells Canyon side of the Seven Devils. These two fires were managed as a Wildland Fire Use (WFU) fire.**

 **A WFU fire allows fire to play a more natural role in the ecosystem – improving vegetation conditions, removing un-natural levels of fuels, and creating a ‘patchwork’ landscape for wildlife habitat.**

 **On Aug 6, another lightning storm resulted in two additional fire starts and the Granite Complex complex was designated.**

 **The fire is being managed by a WFU team base in Riggins, Idaho and is approximately 16,494 acres as of August 17.**

 **As a WFU fire, a management perimeter is set and the fire is managed as a natural process within this perimeter. If the fire threatens to go outside of this perimeter, or threatens private lands or structures, then suppression actions are taken.**

SAFETY TIPS

* **PREPARE: Plan your trip with the latest fire updates and use the section of the river that avoids the fire. As you prepare be aware of forecasted weather. Thunderstorms or general rain at the higher elevations can manifest themselves in debris flows down streams and drainages.**
* **WATCH: As you boat look out for burned out trees and snags, unstable sections of the hillside, & helicopter and airplane water and retardant drops.**
* **CAMP: Choose a safe place to camp- away from the fire, in open areas out of the timber, & away from falling/rolling hazards below cliffs and slopes – especially debris shoots with obvious ash and rock movement. Enjoy your river experience with our Fire Use fire.**

**THANKS for visiting Hells Canyon!!**

*River Users UPDATE*

