

BIG WINDY COMPLEX FIRE INFORMATION 541-476-1252



USDA Forest Service
Rogue River-Siskiyou NF



Oregon Department of
Forestry



Bureau of Land
Management
Medford District



Ed Lewis
Incident Commander
IMT PNW Team 3

Fire Update – 08/16/2013 9:00 a.m. PDT

Big Windy Complex: The percentage of containment does not accurately reflect the amount of work that has been accomplished to date. A significant effort has gone into line construction; however, an area is not considered contained until the line is completely secure, solid, and black, with little chance of the fire escaping it. The containment figure will increase as burnout operations are accomplished and the line is considered fully secure.

The wild section of the Rogue River is now **open** with restrictions. Rogue River boaters are encouraged to use Argo or Alameda Dock for boat ramp access rather than Grave Creek. This will help reduce congestion with fire traffic. Please contact the Smullin Visitor Center at 541-479-3735 if you have questions about river operations.

Yesterday's Fire Operations: Yesterday, crews continued burn out operations to strengthen the containment line along the south, southeast, and east flanks. A Helitorch, an aerial ignition tool was used to reduce fuels between the main fire and the containment line, created a low intensity understory burn. The west flank became slightly more active on ridge tops in the late afternoon. Good progress was made on contingency line construction north of the river.

Today's Fire Operations: Crews will continue to secure and hold the areas that were burned yesterday. Burn out operations will move to the west flank as opportunities present themselves. Fire fighters stationed along the river are charged with keeping the fire in check and providing structural protection. Dip site managers will direct river traffic since helicopters will be dipping from deep, slow moving sections of the Rogue River where boaters generally rest. Crews will continue to construct contingency lines on the northeast flank.

Quick Facts Incident Summary	
Location:	NW of Galice
Approximate Size:	16,347 Acres
Fire Containment:	15%
Start Date:	July 26, 2013
Cause:	Lightning
Incident Commander:	Ed Lewis
Resources on the Fire:	Crews: 27 Helicopters: 5 Engines: 48 Dozers: 7 Water Tenders: 15
Total Personnel:	1,114
Jurisdiction:	Oregon Dept of Forestry Bureau of Land Management

Weather: Today, we will see an increase in relative humidity and strong potential for fog. Moist conditions are expected to last through the weekend. Another warm, dry trend is expected to begin early next week.

Evacuations: A Level 2 evacuation is in place north of the Rogue River and south of the Marial Byway. Residents should be prepared to leave if asked. A Level 1 evacuation is in effect in the Galice area and west where hazards from the approaching fire may be severe. Residents should take precautionary measures to protect persons with special needs, pets, livestock, and mobile property.

Closures:

- Bear Camp Road (BLM # 34-8-36 and Forest Service #23) is officially closed. See websites above for additional information. The National Guard is providing staffing at all road closure checkpoints.
- Burnt Ridge Road, Forest Service Road 2308, is closed from the junction with Forest Road 2300 to the junction with Forest Road 3300.
- Rogue River Trail from Grave Creek to Rogue River Ranch.

FOR ADDITIONAL AND UPDATED FIRE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:
www.inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3570 or follow www.twitter.com/BigWendyORFire

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