

News Release



South Central Oregon
Fire Management Partnership
www.scofmp.org

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FREMONT-WINEMA NATIONAL FORESTS CLOSE FOREST ROADS TO ENSURE PUBLIC AND FIREFIGHTER SAFETY

Crater Lake, Ore – Due to suppression activities taking place on the Phoenix Wildland Fire, the Fremont-Winema National Forests have closed the following Forest Service (FS) roads:

- FS Road 7015 from its junction with Oregon State Highway 138 to its intersection with FS Road 70.
- FS Road 2308 from its junction with FS Road 570 to its intersection with FS Road 7015.
- FS Road 570 from its junction with FS Road 70 to its intersection with FS Road 2308.

“The Forest was seeing an increase in traffic on those roads with the start of bow season,” said Dave Sabo, Chemult District Ranger. “Public and firefighter safety is our number priority and made it necessary for us to close those roads.”

Fire officials have now estimated that the Phoenix Wildland Fire has burned 310 acres in Crater Lake National Park and about 20 acres on the Fremont-Winema National Forests for a total of 330 acres. The fire was ignited by lightning on the afternoon of August 17 and discovered on August 18. It is currently burning inside the National Park’s boundary on the east flank of Timber Crater and in an area on the Forest between FS Roads 7015 and 2308.

According to Phoenix Wildland Fire Incident Commander Ken Gregor, the cold front that moved into the area on Saturday brought cooler temperatures and .05 inches of precipitation, which slowed the progression of the fire. “This weather is allowing fire crews more time to make progress on contingency lines in anticipation of the warmer temperatures forecasted later this week,” added Gregor.

The Phoenix Wildland Fire is being managed to allow fire to serve its natural role in the ecosystem and reduce hazardous fuel accumulation in the National Park. A fire suppression strategy is being implemented on National Forest lands with public and firefighter safety as the number one priority.

For more information about the Phoenix Wildland Fire, please contact the National Park Service at (541) 594-3062. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.nps.gov/fire/>

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