



# View Lake Fire Complex

## Fire Information Update

[www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org)

[www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/)

[www.pnw2.com](http://www.pnw2.com)

[www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette)

**Contact: Public Information Office 503-834-5507**

**Thursday, August 26, 2010 – 10 am PDT Update**

Fire	Acres	% Contained	Cost	Total Personnel
View Lake Complex	579*	60%	\$2,192,443	488

\*Estimated acreage will increase after intelligence is gathered regarding yesterday's fire growth

### News & Events for the View Lake Fire Complex:

- Pacific Northwest Team 2 (Chris Hoff) assumed command of the View Lake Fire Complex at 6:00 a.m. this morning; the Incident Command Post (ICP) is located at Ripplebrook Ranger Station
- Primary objectives include the reopening of the Olallie Lake Scenic Area and associated recreation & resort facilities, as soon as it is safe to allow public re-entry
- Keep fires from moving east on Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs reservation lands
- Allow fire to play its natural role within the Bull of the Woods Wilderness

### VIEW LAKE FIRE COMPLEX STATUS:

Fire behavior is expected to be similar to yesterday, with very active fire behavior expected on ridge tops exposed to westerly winds up to 30 mph in late morning. Around mid-day, a dry cold front with associated marine air will move through the area, bringing significantly cooler temperatures into the area. The extended outlook calls for partly cloudy skies and day time temperatures 63-69 degrees.

Being a transition day with a new incident management team, fire operations personnel will assess the conditions of all fires and create a strategic plan for management of the View Lake Fire Complex. Firefighters have made good progress with the View Lake Fire perimeter and associated mop up efforts. Firefighters will continue with mop up efforts, utilizing helicopter water bucket drops and felling trees as needed for firefighter safety purposes. The Pyramid Butte Fire, located in the Mt Jefferson Wilderness and near the southwest edge of the Olallie Lake Recreation Area, will be staffed with five hotshot crews starting today. Fires that are currently unstaffed and being assessed to make a determination on appropriate management strategies include Fire #248, located close to the Pyramid Butte Fire; Dinah-Mo Peak, an approximate 4-acre fire located on the Willamette National Forest; and a number of fires located in the Bull of the Woods Wilderness.

**Evacuations:** The Olallie Lake Scenic Area campgrounds & resort have been evacuated for public safety purposes. Fire operations personnel are closely monitoring fire status to determine when the area can be reopened for recreational use.

**Closures:** The Olallie Lake Scenic Area and associated portion of the Pacific Crest Trail(PCT), a portion of the Mt Jefferson Wilderness and associated portion of the PCT and a portion of the Bull of the Woods Wilderness, including portions of the Elk Creek, Mother Lode and Dickey Creek Trails.

**Pacific Crest Trail Hiker Shuttle System:** The PCT is currently closed on the south at Jefferson Park north through the Olallie Lake Scenic Area. The Mt Hood and Willamette National Forest have arranged to shuttle hikers on an intermittent basis between the south fork Breitenbush Trail and the Triangle Lake Equestrian Campground. Hikers are being shuttled, as needed, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6 p.m.

**FIRE FACTS:**

**View Lake Fire Complex: Started:** August 17, 2010; **Cause:** Lightning; **Location:** 45 miles east of Estacada in Marion and Clackamas Counties; **Resources:** 16 hand crews, 4 helicopters, 8 engines, 0 dozers, 2 water tenders, 488 total personnel.

**SAFETY CONCERNS:** Transition day with new fire management team, steep, rocky terrain with numerous standing dead trees (snags) and rolling material, long travel times to fire, unburned interior fuels.

**RESOURCE CONCERNS:** Fires near high use recreation areas; protection of wilderness values and cultural resources through the use of Minimum Impact Suppression Techniques (MIST), utilizing existing trails and natural barriers as control lines where possible.

**VALUES AT RISK:** Olallie Lake Resort, Forest Service Campgrounds, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs reservation lands.

**WEATHER:** A major change in the weather pattern is under way today, starting a cooling trend over the fire area. Prior to the arrival of a dry cold front, southwesterly winds will increase, with potential winds up to 30 mph on ridge tops in the late morning hours. The front will pass overhead midday with a strong push of westerly to northwesterly winds behind it. Temperatures around 70 mid-day and decreasing in the afternoon.

**TODAY'S EXPECTED FIRE BEHAVIOR:** Fire behavior is expected to be active today, particularly on ridge tops, with west & southwest winds pushing the fires in an easterly and northeasterly and direction.

**COOPERATING AGENCIES & PARTNERS:** Mt Hood National Forest, Willamette National Forest, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Clackamas and Marion Counties.