



View Lake Fire Complex

Fire Information Update

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Contact: Public Information Office 503-834-5507

Tuesday, August 31, 2010 – 9:00 am PDT Update

Fire	Acres	% Contained	Total Cost	Total Personnel
View Lake Fire	102	80%		
Pyramid Butte/Mt. Jefferson Fires	1,707*	60%		
Bull of the Woods	2,523*	0%		
View Fire Complex Total	4,335*		\$5,155,000	850

*Reduction in acreage figures is due to more accurate infrared information recently obtained.

News & Events for the View Lake Fire Complex:

- The closure for Olallie Lake Scenic Area is currently in effect for public safety purposes, but will be partially open (on the north end of the Scenic Area with closure remaining in effect south of Camp Ten) starting Wednesday, September 1. The Olallie Lake Resort, campgrounds and facilities north of Camp Ten Campground will be open at that time, however, all trails within the entire Olallie Lake Scenic Area will remain closed.
- Archery season for elk, deer, bear and cougar has begun; expect hunter camps and additional traffic in the fire area. Hunters are advised to check for current information on closure areas.
- Masticators are being utilized for brush removal on segments of the 6370 and 4696 roads; temporary road closures will be in place while the equipment is in operation. The work will take several weeks to complete.

VIEW LAKE FIRE COMPLEX STATUS:

The fire area received a trace of rain yesterday. Precipitation is forecasted again today, with up to 1/10" inch possible in the fire area. Depending on how the weather system moves through the area, air operations may be somewhat limited.

Yesterday, firefighters made good progress mopping up the Pyramid Butte Fire that is north of the 4220 Road and laying hose and mopping up on the 100-acre spot fire near Rock Cone. Crews continued with mop up and rehabilitation efforts on the View Lake Fire and masticators started work on creating a defensible perimeter for the Bull of the Woods fire along the 4696, 63 and 6370 Roads.

Today, firefighters will continue mopping up the perimeter of the View Lake Fire east of the 4220 Road and continue with rehabilitation efforts; continue to construct line and mop up on the Pyramid Butte Fire, and continue with 100% mop up of the spot fire near Rock Cone. Masticators and fallers will continue to prep along the 6370 and 4696 roads east and southeast of 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; the area closure is still in effect at this time but is anticipated to be partially open on the north end of the Scenic Area, except for trails, starting Wednesday, September 1.

Scenic Area, Wilderness Area & Trail and Road 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
- An expanded area closure (August 29, 2010) for the Bull of the Woods Wilderness, including portions of the Elk Creek, Mother Lode and Dickey Creek Trails and extending eastward. The area description is defined by Forest Road (FR) 63 between 6340 and 6350 junction and FR 6350 on the east from Collawash Mountain along the forest boundary to 6370, 4696-850, 4696 and 4697 on the south, trail #544 on the west and FR 6340 and FR 6341 on the north. All trails and roads inside the fire closure boundary are closed. The Trail #544 between Bagby Hot Springs and Elk Lake remains open. Bagby Hot Springs and the Pegleg Falls Recreation Area is open. The Elk Lake Campground, which leads to Battle Ax Creek Trail (#3399) and Beachie Saddle Trail (#3341) remain open. The following fire closure boundary roads are open: FR 4696, FR 6350, FR 63 to the FR 6350 junction, and FR 6341.
- Forest Road 4220 is closed at its junction with Forest Road 46 at the south end and Forest Road 4690 at the north end.
- Forest Road 4631 to Lake Harriet is closed; for access to Lake Harriet and the campground, travel east of Rd. 57 towards Timothy Lake, then take an immediate left after crossing the Oak Grove Fork bridge, and head approximately one mile west on Rd. 4630 to get to Lake Harriet.
- Forest Roads 46 and 57 remain open

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 Forests have arranged to shuttle hikers on an intermittent basis between the south fork Breitenbush Trail (via trail #3375 located west of Russell Lake in Jefferson Park) and the Triangle Lake Equestrian Campground. Hikers are being shuttled, as needed, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 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:** 24 hand crews, 5 helicopters, 12 engines, 5 water tenders, 5 masticators, 850 total personnel.

SAFETY CONCERNS: Slippery footing and driving conditions, steep, rocky terrain with numerous standing dead trees (snags) and rolling material, 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, the historic Bull of the Woods Lookout tower.

WEATHER: Partly cloudy early in the day with showers developing early afternoon, containing small hail at times. Snow level around 7000 ft with wet snow mixing in with rain showers down to 5500 ft in late afternoon/evening. Maximum temperature ranging from the upper 40s at 6000 ft to low 60s at 2500 ft. Minimum relative humidity 55% late morning then increasing to 70 to 80% in the late afternoon. Winds across the fire area primarily south to southwest from 3-7 mph shifting to west to northwest winds 7 to 10 mph in the afternoon with gusts up to 20 mph on the ridges. Mostly cloudy tonight with occasional showers in the evening and temperatures dipping to 35-40 degrees and relative humidity 90-100%.

TODAY'S EXPECTED FIRE BEHAVIOR: Minimal fire behavior/spread is expected with today's forecast.

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