

DOLLAR LAKE FIRE INFORMATION 541-354-1431

On Twitter at: www.Twitter.com/DollarLakeFire



Mount Hood National Forest



Jeff Pendleton
Incident Commander
IMT PNW Team 3

Fire Update – 09/15/2011 9:45 a.m. PT

Wednesday was another quiet day on the Dollar Lake Fire as firefighters continued fireline construction and mop-up. The hottest spot on the fire was in the north flank where burn-out operations conducted a week and a half ago continue to burn.

The fire is smoldering in remaining ground fuels left from the unique crown-to-crown progression last week. "This may take a while," said Fire Behavior Analyst Gene Rodgers regarding the continued low level burning of fuels left on the forest floor. "Materials are smoldering and digging down in, and it is our job to dig it out."

This smoldering is aided by "1000-hour fuels" (3 inches in diameter and larger), which are dry due to the summer drought over the last two months. These fuels may take up to 40 days to absorb moisture from higher humidity.

One spot-fire was identified west of Cathedral Ridge and is being controlled with water pulled from McGee Creek. Crews continue to work on completing fireline and mopping up hot spots to protect Lolo Pass and the Bull Run Watershed. Five miles of line remain to be constructed.

Westerly flows are expected to continue with morning fog and low clouds, increasing relative humidity and further decreasing temperatures. Meteorologists noted temperatures at higher elevations are down as much as 21 degrees from yesterday. Fire fighters are facing a wind chill factor of 35 degrees and possible drizzle.

Deepening marine air should bring continued slowing of fire activity, allowing crews to concentrate on finding hot spots, continue mop-up activities and strengthen containment lines. Fire personnel are using infra-red equipment to help assure mop-up standards are met.

Forest Service resource specialists are in the field monitoring and planning for rehabilitation of areas affected by fire suppression activities such as firelines, spike camps and constructed safety zones. A public meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. tonight, Sept. 15, at the Parkdale Fire Station to share information with local residents and all concerned people on the plan for transition of suppression activities back to the Mt. Hood National Forest.

Many people have expressed interest in the activities at the Fire Camp in the Hood River County Fairgrounds. Some tours have been provided by Fire personnel. Over 160 sixth-graders from the Wy' East School in Odell toured the fire camp yesterday.

CLOSURES

Area & Road: Forest Roads: 16 and 18 are closed and all forest roads within the area closure boundary. Forest Roads 2840, 3511, 3512 are closed. For details on area closures please see: www.inciweb.org/incident/2563/

Campgrounds: Lost Lake resort & Campground are open but the surface of lake remains closed (no swimming or boating is allowed on the lake), McNeil, Riley Horse Camp, Lost Creek, Kinnikinnick, Tilly Jane, and Cloud Cap.

Trails: Pacific Crest Trail from the Rushing Water Creek crossing, north to Wahtum Lake; Trail #600 from Gnarl Ridge Trail #652 northwest to its terminus at Ramona Falls Trail #797; Burnt Lake Trail #772 from the Burnt Lake north trailhead, south to the wilderness boundary; Cast Lake Trail #773 and Horseshoe Trail #774 from the trailhead in Riley campground south to the wilderness boundary; Sandy River Trail #770 and Ramona Falls Trail #797; Yokum Ridge #771; Mazamas Trail #625; Vista Ridge Trail #626, Elk Cove Trail #631 and Pinnacle Ridge Trail #630

Quick Facts	
Dollar Lake Fire Summary	
Location:	20 Miles Southwest of Hood River, OR
Approximate Size:	6,273 acres
Fire Containment:	50%
Start Date:	August 27, 2011
Cause:	Lightning
Incident Commander:	Jeff Pendleton, PNW Team 3
Resources on the Fire:	24 crews 6 helicopters 35 engines 3 Dozers 8 water tenders
Total Personnel:	851
Jurisdiction:	USFS

FOR ADDITIONAL AND UPDATED FIRE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

Dollar Lake Fire Information: www.inciweb.org/incident/2563

Mount Hood Nat'l Forest: www.fs.usda.gov/mthood