

Chetco Bar Fire Update

Fire Information 541-412-8531 or chetcobarfireinfo@gmail.com



Tuesday, October 3, 2017

The Chetco Bar Fire remains 98% contained with minimal fire activity. There are currently 235 personnel assigned to the fire but that number is decreasing daily as work is being completed. Firefighters continue to patrol the fire perimeter, mop-up any potential areas of heat, work on suppression repair, and backhaul equipment and supplies from the field. By the end of the week fire officials expect to transfer command of the fire to a local Type 3 organization.

Weather and Fire Behavior:

Strong winds from the east to northeast began early this morning with predicted gusts up to 40mph over higher elevations and ridges. A warming and drying trend is also expected to begin today and continue through Friday. Later in the week the relative humidity is forecasted to drop into the teens in most areas. The continued drying of fuels may allow for low intensity fire behavior in interior pockets of unburned fuels. Smoke may be visible at times.

Safety:

Deer hunting rifle season is in full swing. Motorists may notice an increase in traffic on forest roads. Please be mindful of crews in transit and slow-moving heavy equipment. Drive cautiously with headlights on at all times when near firefighters and equipment.

Closures:

The most recent Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest closure order narrative and map is available to view on Inciweb at: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/closures/5385/. As closures evolve, they are posted here – for ease of viewing and comparison. “Know before you go” by calling (541) 618-2200 or visiting www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/rogue-siskiyou/alerts-notices.

A BAER in the Woods:

A Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Team is assessing post-fire impacts this week. The team is comprised of US Forest Service, National Park Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration employees. These specialists conduct field surveys, use science-based models to rapidly assess watersheds, inventory resources at risk and gauge the need for emergency measures and treatments on National Forest lands. The goal is to minimize threats to life or property and to stabilize and prevent unacceptable degradation to natural and cultural resources resulting from fire effects.

The Bureau of Land Management has conducted a BAER assessment for lands under their jurisdiction.

Quick Facts Incident Summary	
Approximate Acreage	Chetco Bar: 191,090 ac. Indigo: 615 ac.
Approximate Containment	Chetco Bar: 98% Indigo: 100%.
Reported Date (Cause)	Chetco Bar: July 12 (lightning) Indigo: September 11 (lightning)
Incident Commander	Chris Schulte, Pacific Northwest Team 2 Type 1 Incident Management Team
Resources on the Fires	Chetco Bar: 5 crews, 3 engines, 3 helicopters, 6 water tenders Indigo: Monitor status, with helicopter bucket work as needed.
Total Personnel	Chetco Bar: 235 Indigo: unstaffed
Jurisdiction	Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, Bureau of Land Management Coos Bay District, Coos Forest Protective Association and Oregon Department of Forestry Southwest Oregon District

ONLINE RESOURCES

Inciweb:

inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5385/

Closures:

tinyurl.com/ybbxn4zc

Facebook:

facebook.com/chetcobarfire/

Oregon Smoke Information:

oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/