



## Great Basin Incident Management Team 2

**Tony DeMasters, Incident Commander - Kim Martin, Deputy Incident Commander**

# Devil's Knob Complex

**Fire Update for Sunday, August 22, 2021**

**Complex Total Acreage: 21,929**

**Fire Information: 541-900-6133**

**Complex Total Containment: 25%**

The Devil's Knob Complex is a group of lightning-caused fires with the majority burning on the Tiller Ranger District and on private lands protected by Douglas Forest Protective Association. The Complex is situated beneath the Rough Patch Complex and Jack Fire to the north, all of which are being managed by Great Basin Team 2 in cooperation with local agencies and stakeholders.

**Evacuations and Closures:** The Douglas County Sheriff elevated the Ash Creek - South Umpqua Road to Level 2, Yellow, Be Set (prepare to leave at a moment's notice). The Smith Fire has moved to the east and fire is burning 2.5 miles to the west of the 28 road near Ash Valley. The 29 road is open for access out of Ash Valley, as well as the 28 road to the north. The 28 road to the south is impassible.

Visit the Douglas County Sheriff Office's interactive evacuation map at [www.dcsso.com/evacuations](http://www.dcsso.com/evacuations) Residents can opt in to receive emergency alerts by registering at [www.dcsso.com/alerts](http://www.dcsso.com/alerts). The Forest Service has implemented an Emergency Fire Closure restricting public access to most of the Steamboat, North Umpqua, and South Umpqua drainages due to high fire danger and the safety of firefighting resources in the area. To view the Closure in its entirety, [visit this link](#).

**General Updates:** A public meeting was held last night at the Tiller Volunteer Fire Department, providing an opportunity for residents to hear recent reports from fire officials, local agencies, and elected officials. The meeting will be posted on the incident Facebook page on Sunday.

Good progress was made throughout the complex on Saturday. Fire crews continued adding protection through line construction and firing operations. Lines are holding well on the western portions of the fires. Further containment was realized on Mule Creek and Hamlin fires.

An incident management team will be arriving today at Milo Camp in preparation of taking over the Devil's Knob Complex within the next several days.

**Smith Fire** – 7,347 acres – Burnout operations on the 28 and 29 Roads were successful and are holding well. Firefighters have made progress in removing the threat away from private property to the west flank of the fire. Fire activity increased on the east side of the fire Saturday afternoon, crossing over portions of primary control lines. This activity prompted the Level 2 evacuation for Ash Creek residents. An assessment is being made today of this area and additional plans made for containment. Concerns with access on the 28 Road remain due to fallout and dangerous conditions along the roadway. Progress is being made on the south side of the Umpqua River. A couple of spots that had occurred on Friday were lined and heavy equipment will be working in that area today.

**Big Hamlin Fire** – 11,517 acres – Additional containment was realized on the western side of the fire on Saturday. Previously completed firing operations are holding well. Burnout operations will continue near the southwest and southeast flanks of the fire today. Firefighters have around .5 miles of additional burnout to accomplish on the 31 Road. Crews will be working to tie off the southeast corner of the fire through improving lines and firing operations.

**Mule Creek Fire** – 1,023 acres – Contained and mopped up.

**Wild Cat, Little Applegate, Dismal Creek, Section 30 (Railroad) Fires** – 466 acres combined – Contained and in patrol status.

**Weather:** The fire area received 85-95% humidity recovery overnight. Today, it will be a bit warmer/drier with temps in the low 80s and Rh in the upper 20s with winds NW 5-8mph with gusts 15-20 mph. An extreme drought continues with no precipitation in the forecast for the next 7-10 days.

**Air Quality:** Smoke levels can change rapidly depending on weather. Check current conditions on the Oregon Smoke Information Blog: <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/>.

**Temporary Flight Restrictions:** For the safety of the firefighters and aircraft fighting the Devil's Knob Complex, a temporary flight restriction remains over portions of the fire area. Wildfires are a "No Drone Zone." Conditions in the forest remain very dry. Any spark has a very high probability of starting a new fire, so the public is reminded to be extra careful while enjoying the out-of-doors. "One Less Spark, One Less Wildfire."

**Information Websites:**

Facebook page "2021 Devil's Knob Complex"

Inciweb - <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7771/>

Oregon Smoke Information - <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/>

Douglas County Sheriff's Office - <https://www.facebook.com/DouglasCoSO/>