



Willamette National Forest



Sequoia Gjerde
Incident Commander

Fire Update – 8/08/2016 12:00 p.m. PT

Closure Order: The McKenzie River Trail between Trail Bridge Campground and Carmen Reservoir is closed and there is no access to the Blue Pool area. The fire, smoke, falling trees and rocks pose a high safety risk. Law enforcement officers are patrolling the fire area to ensure public and firefighter safety.

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/willamette/alerts-notice>.

UPDATE

The Blue Top fire continues to smolder within the containment lines. Full containment is anticipated no earlier than the end of August, due to a section of the fire's perimeter that is inaccessible and unsafe for firefighters. The McKenzie River Trail and Blue Pool area will remain closed until weakened trees and other hazards are removed and damaged slopes are repaired.

The McKenzie River Ranger District assumed command of the fire as of noon yesterday. Some resources are being released as the fire activity subsides.

Mop up operations and patrol will continue today, and security personnel will enforce the trail and fire area closures. Chipping along roadsides will continue.

Resource advisors are designing measures to restore sensitive areas impacted by firefighting activities. Repairing access roads, decompacting trails and mulching bare areas will help protect the McKenzie River fire area from future erosion. Strategies will be implemented once fire danger has passed.

Firefighting vehicles continue to use Hwy 126 for access to the fire, and the public is encouraged to reduce speeds and stay alert in the fire area. There have been several serious accidents along this corridor in the last week.

The McKenzie River area of the Willamette National Forest has many beautiful recreation sites. The French Pete area offers excellent opportunities for fishing, hiking, boating, swimming, camping, picnicking, and scenic drives. The Three Sisters Wilderness Area as well as French Pete and Box Canyon Trail Areas offer several miles of hiking. Terwilliger (Cougar) Hot Springs are nearby for a nice soak.

Detailed information regarding the fire is available on Inciweb:

<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4919/>.

Quick Facts Blue Top Fire Summary	
Location:	12 miles Northeast of McKenzie Bridge, Oregon
Approximate Size:	58 acres
Fire Containment:	80%
Start Date:	July 27, 2016
Cause:	Under Investigation
Incident Commander:	Sequoia Gjerde McKenzie River Ranger District
Resources on the Fire:	(2) Type 2 Handcrews 1 Engine 1 water tender Type 3 Helicopter
Total Personnel:	69
Jurisdiction:	USFS



FOR ADDITIONAL AND UPDATED LOCAL FIRE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

Willamette NF: www.fs.usda.gov/willamette

Twitter at [www.twitter.com/WillametteNF](https://twitter.com/WillametteNF)

Facebook at U.S. Forest Service - Willamette National Forest

Inciweb: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4919/>