Willamette Fire Update
Fire Information 541-719-8371 or willamettewildfires2017@gmail.com

Fire Update – Wednesday, August 23, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.

Air Quality Note:
An increase in smoke has caused intermittent unhealthy air quality for the communities of Detroit, Breitenbush, Sisters and McKenzie Bridge. Air quality managers will be installing a particulate monitor in McKenzie Bridge to further observe air quality. West winds are predicted to provide some relief from smoke over the next few days.

McKenzie River Ranger District:
The Horse Creek Complex has been established and includes the Avenue fire and nearby small wilderness fires. The Avenue Fire [81 acres] is located two miles south of McKenzie River Ranger District office in rugged terrain above Avenue Creek. Fire activity has subdued over the past few days allowing firefighters to hold and improve indirect control lines along FSR 1993, Horse Creek Road and Foley Ridge Road.

The other small fires - Ollalie [155 acres], Pete [19 acres], Separation [343 acres], and Roney fires [323 acres] - continue to exhibit low levels of activity and remain confined to the Three Sisters Wilderness. Keeping the fire to the south of the McKenzie Bridge area is a priority for firefighters. Structure defense has been established for Foley Hot Springs.

Rebel Fire is burning in heavy timber and rugged terrain along the South Fork of the McKenzie River. Firefighters continue to hold the fire at FSR 19 (Aufderheide Drive) and are engaging in burnout operations as needed. As a contingency, firefighters are continuing to improve lines around structures in the area in case of a change in fire activity and wind direction.

Detroit Ranger District: French Fire  Heavy equipment has been used to complete 99% of the indirect contingency line. There was no visible smoke yesterday in the two acre fire area. Firefighters will continue to monitor and patrol the incident located on a ridge to the north of Detroit.

Whitewater and Little Devil Fires are burning in the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness and adjacent national forest lands located approximately 13 miles east of Detroit. Yesterday, conditions were favorable for firing operations and crews made substantial headway burning off several spur roads to the west and the south. Fire spread should slow with cooler temperatures. Crews are optimistic that significant progress can be made to reinforce control lines over the next shift. The Little Devil Fire continued to move east and south toward the Whitewater Fire, away from the Breitenbush area.

Weather and Fire Behavior: The inversion over the last few days has slowed fire activity. Temperatures will be cooler today and again Thursday. Winds are predicted to be light out of the west and will pick up in the later afternoon above 5,000 feet with gusts up to 15-20 mile per hour. Relative humidity is expected to rise in the afternoon.

### Quick Facts

#### Incident Summary

| Approximate Acreage | French: 2 ac.  
| Whitewater: 8,500 ac.  
| Rebel: 2,691 ac.  
| Horse Creek Complex: 902 ac.  
| Little Devil: 270 ac.  |

| Reported Date (Cause) | French: August 10 (lightning)  
| Whitewater: July 23 (lightning)  
| Rebel: August 4 (unknown)  
| Avenue: August 11 (lightning)  |

| Incident Commander | Chris Schulte, Pacific Northwest Team 2 Type 1 Incident Management Team |

| Resources on the Fires | French: 2 dozers, 1 water tender  
| Whitewater: 16 crews, 6 helicopters, 17 engines, 8 water tenders, 7 Dozers  
| Rebel and Horse Creek Complex: 9 crews, 14 engines, 1 water tender, 3 Dozers  |

| Total Personnel | French: 16  
| Whitewater: 638  
| Rebel and Horse Creek Complex: 287  |

| Jurisdiction | Willamette National Forest and Oregon Department of Forestry |

### Online Links

- Inciweb: [https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/unit/3860](https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/unit/3860)
- Forest and Highway Closures: [https://go.usa.gov/xRnz7](https://go.usa.gov/xRnz7)
- [https://www.tripcheck.com](https://www.tripcheck.com)
- Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/WillametteWildfireS2017](https://www.facebook.com/WillametteWildfireS2017)
- Interactive Map: [https://arcg.is/1nSPWa](https://arcg.is/1nSPWa)
- Oregon Smoke Information: [https://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/](https://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/)
- Jones Fire: [https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5494/](https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5494/)