

Willamette Fire Update – Monday, August 28, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.

Fire Information Line: 541-719-8371 or Email: willamettewildfires2017@gmail.com



Red Flag Warning remains in effect for the fire area until 8:00 p.m.

Weather, Fire Behavior, and Air Quality

A Red Flag Warning remains in effect for the fire area until 8:00 p.m. due to a dry and unstable environment. Conditions may be favorable for rapid spread and extreme fire behavior is possible. A short-lived cooling trend is predicted to begin Tuesday. Air quality will be unhealthy in some areas due to fire activity in the Willamette area and drift smoke from other Oregon fires.

MCKENZIE RIVER RANGER DISTRICT FIRES

The **Horse Creek Complex** includes the Avenue Fire, burning three miles southeast of McKenzie Bridge, and nearby wilderness fires Olallie Lookout, Separation, and Roney. The lightning-caused Nash fire (#181), burning in the Three Sisters Wilderness, has been added to the Horse Creek Complex. This fire is located 1 mile north of Nash Lake and was first detected August 10. Fire activity has been minimal in the area due to a heavy smoke layer. Firefighters are constructing and cleaning indirect control lines as well as continuing structure assessment and protection measures in the area.

The **Rebel Fire** is burning in heavy timber and steep terrain along the South Fork of the McKenzie River. Firefighters are working to clean and improve existing control lines as well as hold the fire east of FSR 19 (Aufderheide Drive) and south of Road 22.

DETROIT RANGER DISTRICT FIRES

The **Whitewater Fire** is burning in the Mount Jefferson Wilderness and Willamette National Forest land located approximately 13 miles east of Detroit. Resources will work to construct contingency lines on the northeast side of the fire. Crews will continue to monitor and patrol the southern perimeter of the fire where previous firing operations occurred. They will strengthen existing control lines and assess opportunities for tactical firing operations when conditions are favorable.

The **Little Devil Fire** is burning slowly southward, approximately 2 ½ miles southeast of the Breitenbush Hot Springs area. Crews are continuing to build control lines and maintain the sprinkler system installed in the area south of Breitenbush.

Strategy

Firefighters are primarily using indirect tactics, as many of these fires are burning in heavy timber and steep terrain with poor access. These tactics include constructing fireline away from the fire's edge and either allowing the fire to burn up to the control line or burning off hazardous fuels between the control line and the main fire. This strategy enables firefighters to protect values at risk where they can do so safely and effectively.

Community Meeting

*There will be a community meeting on Tuesday, August 29 at **7:00 p.m.**, to discuss the Rebel Fire and the Horse Creek Complex. The meeting will be held at the Upper McKenzie Community Center at 54745 McKenzie River Drive in Blue River, Oregon. Note: the time has changed from 6:00 p.m., as previously reported.*

Quick Facts Incident Summary	
Approximate Acreage	Whitewater: 10,118 ac. Horse Ck. Complex: 1,343 ac. Rebel: 3,093 ac. Little Devil: 312 ac.
Reported Date (Cause)	Whitewater: July 23 (lightning) Avenue: August 11 (lightning) Rebel: August 4 (unknown)
Incident Commander	Bea Day, Southwest Type 1 Incident Management Team 1
Resources on the Fires	Whitewater: 23 Crews, 5 Helicopters, 17 Engines, 14 Water Tenders Horse Ck. Complex: 5 Crews, 5 Engines, 3 Dozers, 3 Water Tenders, 1 Masticator Rebel: 2 Crews, 3 Engines
Total Personnel	Whitewater: 781 Horse Ck. Complex: 168 Rebel: 49
Jurisdiction	Willamette National Forest and Oregon Department of Forestry
Online Links	
InciWeb Incident Info inciweb.nwcg.gov/unit/3860/	
Forest and Highway Closures go.usa.gov/xRnz7 tripcheck.com	
Facebook facebook.com/WillametteWildfires2017	
Interactive Map arcg.is/1nSPWa	
Oregon Smoke Information oregonsmoke.blogspot.com	
Jones Fire inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5494/	

