

Horse Creek Complex and Rebel Fire

Update for Sunday, Oct. 1, 2017, 9 a.m.

Fire Information: (541) 719-8371

Online: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5523/>

<https://www.facebook.com/WillametteWildfires2017/>

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Attention: Firefighters and heavy equipment are still working in parts of the Willamette National Forest and Three Sisters Wilderness. Drivers, hunters and recreationists need to be cautious when using these public lands. Expect slow moving vehicles, know your target and know where you can go before you leave.

Current Situation: Temperatures were cooler Saturday as predicted but the rainfall was much less than expected. This was welcomed by firefighters still working to complete suppression repairs to the Separation, Avenue and Rebel fires. Excavator work is complete on control lines for the Separation Fire and hand crews will work to finish off areas where the heavy equipment could not operate. Once they scatter the last of the small brush and slash on areas of exposed soil and cast grass seed, graders will finish repairing damage to Forest Service Roads. Hazard tree removal along Highway 242, Old McKenzie Highway, will begin now that proper equipment is in place. This work will take several days to complete. The same type of work is needed to the east of the Cascade Crest in the area of the Millie Fire. These operations are the reason 242 remains closed to all traffic including bicycles and hikers. It is expected to remain that way through the winter.

An excavator on the Avenue Fire is cleaning up felled trees along Horse Creek Road and crews are following behind chipping the slash and brush left behind from control line construction. As work is completed in one area, crews and equipment will move to where they are needed next. Firefighters continue their work removing hazardous trees along Forest Service Road 19.

Forest Roads Open: The following Forest Service Roads along Highway 126 are open to the public: FSR 2664, Robinson Lake Road; FSR 2657, Olallie Creek Road; FSR 2653, Boulder Creek Road; FSR 2649, Scott Creek Road; FSR 2647, Cupola Road; FSR 2643, Foley Ridge Road; and Highway 242, Old McKenzie Highway, from HWY 126 to the gate at Camp White Branch.

FSR 2639, King Road is open to FSR 2638, Horse Creek Road, but Horse Creek is closed east of this intersection.

FSR 19, Aufderheide Scenic Byway, is open, for a short distance, from HWY 126 to FSR 410, Cougar Dam Road. FSR 411 is open to allow access to the Castle Rock area. O'Leary Mountain Trail is closed as is the forest and wilderness areas south of it. The scenic byway is closed from the junction with 410, south to the Roaring Ridge South Trailhead; the trail remains closed. Cougar Reservoir, Terwilliger "Cougar" Hot Springs and other recreation sites remain closed. Forest roads 1957, 1958 and adjacent spurs are open but the forest and wilderness areas to their east are closed.

Forest Trails Open: In the Three Sisters Wilderness south of Skookum Creek: Erma Bells Trail #3563, Judy Lake Trail #3575, Jack Pine Way #3587, Irish Mountain Trail #3588, and Williams Lake #3589. In Mount Washington Wilderness: Robinson Lake Trailhead, Deer Butte Trail #3508 and Hand Lake Trail #3513 until they reach the closure area. On the northern edge of the wilderness, Patjens Lake Loop #3395 from Big Lake is open.