

North Star and Tunk Block Fire Information 509-826-7140



Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation



Colville Tribal EMS, Fire & Rescue



Okanogan & Ferry County Fire Districts 2,4,7,8,13 & 16



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF Natural Resources



Okanogan-Wenatchee & Colville National Forests



Bureau of Land Management Spokane District



Bureau of Indian Affairs Colville Agency



PNW Team 3, Ed Lewis, Incident Commander

Fire Update – September 5, 2015 8:30 a.m. (PT)

Yesterday's Activities: Crews continued a burn-out along the northeast corner of the North Star Fire to better protect the Republic community. Another burnout was successfully implemented at the eastern end of Aeneas Valley, and one was initiated between the fire and a portion of Hwy 21 to protect houses in that corridor. Hand and dozer lines to control fire spread continued to be constructed along the southwest and west portions of the North Star Fire, and the north part of the east boundary of the Tunk Block Fire (NE Tunk Mountain). A large portion of the Tunk Block Fire and the southern edge of the North Star fire are in mop-up and patrol.

Today's Operations: Crews will continue burnout in portions of the Hwy 21 corridor as conditions allow. Fireline construction and mop-up will continue. Work continues on the contingency line northeast of Tunk Mountain to better protect private land and homes in Aeneas Valley, and the lookout. Firefighters are coordinating with range permittees in preparation for a potential burnout between constructed line and the fire's edge. Aerial resources are checking the spread of the fire as line construction continues. Scattered smoke will continue to be visible on both fires, including some from burnout operations. More resources are becoming available to manage the North Star Fire, including some being transferred from the Tunk Block Fire. Crews working night shifts will change to swing shifts noon to midnight to better manage more active fire periods.

Weather: The forecast is for continued cool and mostly cloudy with isolated showers through the weekend. Maximum temperatures 60-65 at higher elevations and 65-72 in the valleys. Relative humidity will be 25-35%. Northeast winds will shift to northwest by afternoon.

Benefit of fuel treatments: The forest thinning and fuels treatments in the south and east forested edges of Aeneas Valley modified fire behavior, slowing its spread as well as facilitating burnouts and allowing firefighters to establish effective containment lines that protected homes and land.

Evacuations/Closure Information: Evacuation and closure information is dynamic and changes more frequently than this report is updated. For the most current evacuation information, please contact your closest Emergency Operations Center (EOC): Colville Tribal Emergency Services 509-634-2105, Okanogan County EOC (509) 422-7206,

Ferry County EOC 509-775-3132. Highway closure information is available online: <http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/trafficalerts> .

National Forest Lands east of Tonasket and south of Highway 20 on the Tonasket Ranger District are closed. Colville Indian Reservation forest and recreational areas are closed within the fires.

Quick Facts Incident Summary	
Size	North Star Fire 207,641 acres Tunk Block Fire 162,323 acre
Fire Containment	North Star Fire 30% Tunk Block Fire 55%
Incident Commander	Ed Lewis, PNW Team 3
Resources on the Fire	Crews:32 Helicopters:7 Engines:145 Dozers: 31
Total Personnel	1,668
Jurisdiction	Okanogan & Ferry Co. Fire Districts 2,4,7,8,13 &16 Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation Bureau of Indian Affairs, Colville Agency Colville Fire EMS, Fire & Rescue Bureau of Land Management Washington State DNR Forest Service

Additional Information



North Star Fire: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4524/>
 Tunk Block Fire: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4598/>
 Blog: <https://northstarandtunkblockfires.wordpress.com>
 Twitter: @OkaWenNF
 Facebook: North Star Fire

