

# 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 Department of Natural Resources



Okanogan-Wenatchee & Colville National Forests



Bureau of Land Management Spokane District



Bureau of Indian Affairs Colville Agency



CAIIMT 1, Jerry McGowan, Incident Commander

## Fire Update – September 13, 2015 8:00 a.m. (PT)

**Tunk Block Fire:** Firefighters made good progress toward securing a difficult containment line in the fire's rugged and difficult northeast corner between Bannon and Tunk Mountains. Success was also achieved in improving line south of Tuck Mountain to Aeneas Mountain area. Today crews will continue to build on their successes and work to mop up any remaining heat near containment lines. As suppression repair plans are completed and appropriate resources arrive, repair work will begin.

**North Star Fire:** Firefighters conducted a small burnout operation east of Cornell Butte to remove remaining ground fuels near containment lines. With this operation complete crews will work to remove any remaining heat near control lines. Efforts were successful to complete direct line on the fire's edge southwest of Cornell Butte. Excellent progress was made at establishing both direct and indirect line north and south of Barrett Butte on the fire's western flank. Other crews were inserted by helicopter on the top of the cliffs east of Highway 21 to construct direct line. Suppression repair plans for the fire area are being prepared.

**Weather:** The weather is expected to be cooler yet dry Sunday with increased winds as the result of several passing cold fronts tonight and again on Sunday evening. Light winds will test containment lines and could help firefighters find remaining heat near containment lines. Temperatures Monday are expected to fall into the 60's reducing fire activity.

**EOC:** Damage assessments are continuing; however, the final number of structures that were damaged and destroyed has not been confirmed. Okanogan County Emergency Management Services has an online Damage Assessment Form for people who have lost a primary residence in the fire. Go to <http://okanogandem.org/> or contact the Okanogan County EOC at 509-422-7206.

**Evacuations:** Evacuation levels in the area along Highway 155 and much of the area south of Highway 20 are currently at Level 1 or 2. Highway 21, from McMann Creek south to Bridge Creek and the Moses Meadows area are at Level 2. For the most current evacuation information, please contact your closest Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

**Closures:** Much of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest remains open to recreation, hunting and woodcutting. Closures on National Forest Lands east of Tonasket and south of Highway 20 on the Tonasket Ranger District remain in effect; this includes hunting and woodcutting. Colville Indian Reservation forest and recreational areas within the fires are closed. See the map at <http://tinyurl.com/OkaWen-Closure-Map> for specific closure areas.

### Additional Information



Tunk Block on Inciweb

**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  
**Northstarfire2015@gmail.com**



North Star on Inciweb