

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 17, 2015 8:00 a.m. (PT)

Tunk Block Quick Facts	
Size	167,840 ac.
Containment:	82%
Resources on the Fire	Crews: 12 Helicopters: 3 Engines: 38 Dozers: 7
Total Pers.	417

Tunk Block Fire: Firefighters continue to improve constructed fire line and mop-up in the large unburned “island” in Tunk Valley and in areas along the east side of the fire. Crews are continuing to mop up any remaining heat near containment lines.

North Star Fire: Crews continue to mop-up hot areas around the fire perimeter. Additional efforts are occurring in the Nanamkin Creek area to hold the fireline that was recently completed in this area.

North Star Quick Facts	
Size	217,601 ac.
Containment:	65%
Resources on the Fire	Crews: 49 Helicopters: 6 Engines: 38 Dozers: 14
Total Pers.	1,504

Both Fires: The Tunk Block and North Star Fires are both very large. The fires combined are approximately 600 square miles. That is equivalent to approximately one third the size of the Grand Canyon. It is approximately 600 miles from Seattle to Redding, California. Smoke will likely be visible as Interior pockets continue to smolder and burn.

Crews are actively mapping the extensive network of dozer line on the fires perimeters and the external contingency lines built beyond the fire perimeters. Firefighters have completed suppression repair on four miles of dozer lines. The suppression repair effort will continue for several weeks.

The Washington Wildfire Response 2015 Joint Task Force 15-011 will be leaving the fires today and tomorrow. Agency Administrators and California Interagency Incident Management Team 1 would like to thank the military for their support in suppression of the Eastern Washington fires.

Weather: After today’s predicted light shower, the weather is to be warmer and dryer through the weekend.

Evacuations: All evacuations have been changed to Evacuation level 1.

Closures: The Okanogan-Wenatchee and Colville National Forests have closures encompassing the entire fire areas and adjacent forested areas. Other areas outside of the burned areas remain open to recreation, hunting and woodcutting. Colville Indian Reservation forest and recreational areas within the fires are closed. See the maps at <http://tinyurl.com/OkaWen-Closure-Map> and http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprd3854418.pdf

Donation Information: The Long Term Recovery Group is accepting donations to benefit anyone affected by the Eastern Washington fires. They are located at 41 Apple Way in Okanogan (the formal Tribal Bingo Hall) <http://www.cfncw.org/fire/>. The Red Cross also accepts donations (1-800-Red-Cross).

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