Williams Flats and Lundstrom Butte Fires Update
Northwest Interagency Incident Management Team 8, Incident Commander: Doug Johnson
August 11, 2019 - 9:00 A.M.

**Fire Information:** (509) 634-7341 (8:00 am to 9:00 pm); 2019.williamsflats@firenet.gov
**Information Websites:** Inciweb – [https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6493](https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6493); 
Facebook Pages – Colville Tribal Broadcast, News and Information Williams Flats Fire

**Williams Flats Fire**
**Acreage:** 43,000
**Containment:** 40%
**Current Fire Information:** Yesterday and last night’s storms tracked directly over the Williams Flats Fire. Large amounts of rain and flash flooding created hazardous road conditions. 64 firefighters remained on the fire, unable to return to the incident command post due to the situation. A helicopter will immediately fly this morning checking on the firefighters and searching for hazardous road conditions. Firefighters will travel to the fire and engage if it can be safely accomplished. The fire has not moved from the existing footprint. The west and southwest flanks of the fire are secure. Resources are being moved from this side of the fire to be utilized on other locations. Along the north flank, preparing of the Silver Creek Road contingency line into the Four Corners area is complete. With the cooler temperatures and minimal fire behavior, firefighters are scouting for opportunities to construct direct containment lines south of the road including under the Whitestone Lookout. The Structure Protection Group is finishing up the preparations around homes and structures in the Four Corners area. The residents returning home are asked to be watchful for firefighters and working equipment. Firefighters are constructing direct line on the northeast flank. The south flank has approximately 1.5 miles of line remaining to be constructed. Crews will be working toward each other from opposite ends to tie the line together.

Initial attack firefighting resources are available to respond to any new fire starts.
The Spokane Tribal Police have provided a rescue boat for emergency evacuation of injured firefighters.

**Lundstrom Butte Fire**
**Acreage:** 10 – Final
**Containment:** 100%
**Current Fire Information:** The fire is in patrol status.

**Resources:** Total personnel assigned –1,225: 8-type 1 hand crews, 11-type 2 IA hand crews, 11-type 2 hand crews, 5-heavy helicopters, 2-medium helicopters, 1-light helicopter, 4-ambulances, 50-engines, 15-dozers, 3-masticator, 4-skidgenes, and 33-water tenders. Right sizing of the fire suppression resources is beginning with demobilization of resources in response to operational needs.

**Weather:** Showers will continue this morning and taper off during the day. There is the likelihood for an additional 0.25 - 0.5 inches of rain. It will be considerably cooler today with temperatures 65-70 degrees and relative humidity 60-65%. Winds will be from the west/southwest 5-10 mph with gust to 20 mph possible.

**Air Quality:** For the latest information regarding smoke and air quality see [https://wasmoke.blogspot.com](https://wasmoke.blogspot.com)

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Evacuations and Closures:

Evacuation notices issued for homes near the Williams Flats Fire by the Colville Tribes Emergency Services and the Ferry County Sheriff’s Office have been revised as follows:

Level 1:
- Wilmont Creek drainage
- Goat Ranch/Hellgate area

Level 2:
- Areas south of Wilmont Creek (including the southern part of Ninemile-Frosty Meadows Road and along the Silver Creek Road)

Level 3:
- Areas south of Four Corners,
- On or near the shoreline of Lake Roosevelt along the Ninemile-Hellgate Road.

The Kuehne Road area is not under any evacuation orders however, due to heavy fire traffic in the area, Kuehne Road access is restricted to residents and landowners only.

Traffic restrictions from traffic control points remain in effect; residents of the area will be allowed past the traffic control checkpoints to return to their homes. Non-residents of the restricted areas will be turned away to minimize traffic through active firefighting areas.

In order to promote public safety, the Colville Tribes Emergency Services has instituted several road closures with limited entry for the Williams Flats Fire area. The restrictions will allow firefighters to work safely along Silver Creek Road and elsewhere in advance of the fire. Traffic control points are being established at:

- The junction of Silver Creek Road and Ninemile-Hellgate Road, also known as the “Four Corners”;
- The junction of Olds Creek Road and the Ninemile-Frosty Meadows Road; and
- The junction of Silver Creek Road and Kuehne Road.

Only residents will be allowed through the control points to their residences within the affected areas. If the fire approaches Silver Creek Road, or if smoke restricts visibility to the point that firefighters are at risk, only fire and other emergency vehicles will be allowed through the traffic control points.

If stopped and asked to turn around by Tribal employees at a traffic control point, please remember that they are trying to keep you and the firefighters working along the roads safe.

Helicopters are dipping and fire boss planes are scooping from nearby Lake Roosevelt for suppression efforts and need space to work. The public is asked to avoid these aircraft activity areas on the water. The area is being patrolled by the the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation Law Enforcement.

A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) of 10 miles surrounds the Williams Flats and Lundstrom Fires. The area is required for the large aircraft to safely maneuver when dropping retardant. Please refer to the Notice to Airmen before flying near the area.