



## Horns Mountain Fire Update

August 14, 2018, 10:00 am

**NW Incident Management Team (IMT) 9, Brian Goff, Incident Commander**

Contact us at: [HornsMountainInfo2018@gmail.com](mailto:HornsMountainInfo2018@gmail.com)

Fire Information: 505-302-5008 (GoogleVoice - Leave message for call back)

InciWeb Maps and Updates: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6138/>

**Northport, WA** – The Horns Mountain fire in the Colville National Forest is now 838 acres. Last nights' infrared flight showed areas of intense heat along much of the fire's perimeter. Today firefighters will work to establish safe anchor points and begin constructing primary line.

The West Hubbard Fire is 9 acres. Firefighters held the Grizz Fire at 5 acres. Work to remove snags or standing dead trees will continue. These trees pose numerous hazards. Embers from a burning snag can become airborne and ignite a spot fire up to 1/3 mile away, a falling snag can carry fire across the line, or can strike and injure a firefighter. Once these hazard trees are removed, firefighters will secure and improve existing lines and do mop up to construct a 50 to 60-foot-wide cold perimeter.

Currently, 229 firefighters and support personnel are assigned to these fires. Among the resources available to firefighters on the ground are one Type 1 National Guard Blackhawk helicopter, two Type 2 medium helicopters, one fixed wing air attack plane, and five FireBoss single-engine amphibious scooper air tankers. The FireBoss tankers are capable of scooping 820 gallons of water from a lake or river. Thirty-five-gallon tanks, in the planes' float pontoons, hold retardant foam which is added to the water, making it a more effective fire suppressant. The FireBoss planes work in tandem and are always in motion. They can perform many round-trip flights from the water source and back to the fire, making it a useful firefighting asset.

The Washington Department of Natural Resources reports that 96 percent of the state is experiencing drought-like conditions. The ERC or energy release component, a measure of forest fuels potential to burn is at historic highs. As hot and dry weather continues the potential risk of wildfire remains high.

Various bans and fire restrictions are in force across the state. Residents and visitors are encouraged to check local regulations before burning. Persons found responsible for a wildfire caused by an illegal burn may be subject to criminal prosecution.

There are no current road or forest closures, but people are advised to avoid fire areas.