



United States Department of Agriculture

Okanogon Complex Fire Update August 30, 2015, 8:00 AM

New Fire Information Numbers: 877-568-0458 or 877-574-5148

7:00 AM to 9:00 PM

<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/>

Date Started: August 14, 2015, 10:25 PM

Size: 304,782

Containment: 25 percent

Cause: lightning

Estimated Cost to Date: \$21.54 million

Injuries: 5

Total Personnel: 1,713

Residences Burned: assessment in progress

Committed Resources: 39 crews, 162 engines, 37 dozers, 41 water tenders, 4 helicopters

CURRENT FIRE SITUATION: Rain, cooler temperatures, and higher humidity are helping crews on the Okanogon Complex today as they work to secure containment lines around the fire. Despite strong winds Saturday, fire growth was minimal. Even with the rain, dense and large vegetation remains dry in many areas and is still burning.

Tunk Block Fire (161,440 acres, 10 percent contained): Fire crews made good progress constructing containment lines on the northeast corner of the fire yesterday. Structure protection work in the Crawfish Lake area remains a high priority and will continue today. Fire managers from the Okanogon Complex and the nearby North Star Fire—east of the Tunk Fire—are coordinating firefighting efforts, with the expectation that those two fires will grow together and eventually be managed as one fire. The North Star Fire is approximately 200,000 acres and growing. Crews will be working to connect the containment lines on the northern and southern ends of the two fires to keep them from spreading to the north and south.

Lime Belt/Blue Lake/Beaver Lake Fire (126,791 acres, 15 percent contained): Crews worked last night to reinforce containment lines and protect structures on the northern end of the Lime Belt fire. Keeping the fire from spreading north through the steep terrain of the Sinlahekin Valley to Loomis is a priority for fire managers. They will use aircraft today to help with that effort. On the western side of the Lime Belt Fire, firefighters continue to construct containment line in areas still burning.

Twisp River (11,831 acres, 98 percent contained): Crews have completed construction of containment line around the fire perimeter. Mop up and monitoring continue.

Nine Mile Fire (4,720 acres, 98 percent contained): The fire is largely contained and in patrol and monitor status.

EVACUATIONS

Information on evacuations is available from the Okanogon County Emergency Operations Center at 509-422-7348 and on its Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Okanogon.County.Emergency.Management>

ROAD CLOSURES

Information on road closures is available from the Okanogon County Emergency Operations Center at 509-422-7348 and on its Facebook page (link above). Additional information about closures is available from the Washington State Department of Transportation at www.wsdot.com/traffic/trafficalerts



Forest
Service

