

Fire Update

Saturday, September 12, 2015, AM

Carpenter Road Fire – Fruitland, Washington

Location: 35 miles NW of Spokane, WA;

Information Center: (509) 722-6010 or (509) 722-6040

Incident Commander: Doug Johnson

Inciweb: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4549/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CarpenterRoadFire

Washington Smoke Information: <http://wasmoke.blogspot.com/>



Guided tours of the Incident Command Post at Fruitland Bible Camp will be offered to the public Saturday at 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm and again Sunday at 2:00 pm. Guests will learn about the Incident Command System and the functions of an Incident Management Team during large incidents. Please wear sturdy shoes and be prepared for touring in the sun.

Current Situation:

The Carpenter Road Fire acres have been reduced to 63,972 due to more accurate mapping and remains at 90% contained.

For fire managers to call an incident 100% contained the confidence level that all perimeter lines will hold during a high heat and/or significant wind event must be very high. The higher temperatures forecasted for the weekend across the Pacific Northwest could create conditions for increased fire behavior in existing wildfires and any new fire starts.

Higher temperatures near 90 degrees, light winds and relative humidity in the 20% will test containment lines today. Crews and heavy equipment have the opportunity to make great progress on suppression repair around the fire area. Hand held infrared heat detectors will identify hot spots deep in the soil which firefighters will dig up and expose, then cool.

The public is asked to refrain from going near the fire area on interior roads for public and firefighter safety. Fire managers would like to remind the public to watch out for fire equipment working in the area. Bow hunting season is open and hunters and outdoor enthusiasts should use caution while recreating on private and public lands.

Closures and Evacuation Information:

- Stevens County EOC: (509) 684-7598 or www.co.stevens.wa.us
- On Tribal lands, the fire perimeter remains closed while other Tribal lands are open. For more information please contact the Spokane Tribal Police: (509) 258-4400.

Resources Assigned: 514 personnel (total)

- 14 crews; 1 helicopter; 27 engines (wildland & structural); 9 Dozers; 5 Water Tenders; 5 Excavators; 1 Masticator

Fire Prevention:

Research and case studies show that it is not where a home is located that necessarily determines risk, but the landscape around it, often referred to as the “home ignition zone.” The home ignition zone is the home and its immediate surrounds up to 200 feet. Buildings that are closer than 100 feet apart can ignite each other if they are in flames. To be most effective, neighbors need to work together and with their local fire service to increase wildfire safety. For more information, visit www.firewise.org.

For up to date information on the Industrial Fire Protection Level (IFPL), please check the Washington Department of Natural Resources website at <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ifpl>