

# Fire Update

Tuesday, September 15, 2015, PM

## Carpenter Road Fire – Fruitland, Washington

**Location:** 35 miles NW of Spokane, WA;

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

**Incident Commanders:** Roger Brandom, Adam Barnes

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

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/CarpenterRoadFire](http://www.facebook.com/CarpenterRoadFire)

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



### **Current Situation:**

The Carpenter Road Fire acres have stabilized at 63,972 and is 95% contained.

Cloud cover and much cooler temperatures persisted over the fire area on Monday; however, the expected rain was very light and scattered. The longer range forecast indicates this change was the leading edge of a number of disturbances moving over Washington State. Maximum temperatures are anticipated to reach only into the high fifties for the next several days with more significant precipitation arriving around mid-week. This should aid firefighters in accomplishing identified suppression repair work.

Suppression tactics routinely involve removing existing vegetation down to mineral soil and in turn disturbing the soil itself. This has both esthetic and environmental effects. The raw scars are unsightly and expose steep slopes to potentially destructive erosion which can deliver large quantities of sediment to adjacent streams degrading water quality and fish habitat. Suppression-related damage to roads and other constructed improvements are also repaired. Work at this stage is intended to address the immediate threats. Depending on the nature and severity of the fire, subsequent efforts may be required to address other, longer-term effects from the fire itself; however, they are not tasked to the suppression forces.

Repair work has been steadily progressing for over a week and fire managers anticipate satisfying identified objectives within the next seven to ten days. The remaining unfinished repairs are concentrated along the southwest and east central flanks of the fires. Areas already repaired are being patrolled and scanned with heat detectors to assure they do not rekindle or escape.

### **Closures and Evacuation Information:**

- Stevens County EOC: (509) 684-7598 or [www.co.stevens.wa.us](http://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:** 306 personnel (total)

- 9 crews; 1 helicopter; 20 engines (wildland & structural); 5 Dozers; 3 Water Tenders; 4 Excavators; 2 Masticator; 2 Chipper

**Fire Prevention:** The arrival of rain during the fire season is a welcome event; however, it does not necessarily mean the end of the fire season. Large, dead fuels (think ten-inch and larger diameter logs) can take over 40 days to absorb enough moisture to not easily ignite. Locally there are fire bans still in place. To prevent unnecessary new wildfires, please do not do any open burning until the burn bans have been lifted and even after that, be very careful with fire.

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