

North Star and Tunk Block Fire Information 509-826-7140



Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation



Colville Tribal EMS, Fire & Rescue



Okanogan & Ferry County Fire Districts 2,4,7,8,13 & 16



Washington Department of Natural Resources



Okanogan-Wenatchee & Colville National Forests



Bureau of Land Management Spokane District



Bureau of Indian Affairs Colville Agency



CAIIMT 1, Jerry McGowan, Incident Commander

Fire Update – September 16, 2015 8:00 a.m. (PT)

Tunk Block Quick Facts	
Size	167,840 ac.
Containment:	82%
Resources on the Fire	Crews: 15 Helicopters: 3 Engines: 32 Dozers: 8
Total Pers.	535

Tunk Block Fire: Firefighters continue to improve constructed fire line and mop-up in the large unburned “island” in Tunk Valley and in areas along the east side of the fire. These efforts will continue over the next day or two. Crews are continuing to mop up any remaining heat near containment lines.

North Star Fire: The crews inserted by helicopter on the top of the cliffs east of Highway 21 near Bear Creek completed construction of the direct line. Firefighters continue to mop-up hot areas around

the fire perimeter.

Both Fires: The Tunk Block and North Star Fires are both very large. The fires combined are approximately 600 square miles. That is equivalent to approximately 10 percent of the area in Okanogan County or 25 percent of the area in Ferry County. It is approximately 510 miles from Republic to Boise, ID. Smoke will likely be visible as Interior islands and pockets continue to smolder and burn for the next several weeks.

Crews are actively mapping the extensive network of dozer line on the fires perimeters and the external contingency line built beyond the fire perimeters. Four miles of suppression repair of dozer firelines has been completed. These efforts will continue for several weeks.

A night shift will be patrolling the fire areas and respond to any reports of flare ups near the fires’ edges or structures.

Weather: The weather is predicted to be warmer and dryer today than it was yesterday. The next chance for wetting rain is Thursday morning.

Evacuations: All evacuations have been changed to Evacuation level 1.

Closures: The Okanogan-Wenatchee and Colville National Forests have closures encompassing the entire fire areas and adjacent forested areas. Other areas remain open to recreation, hunting and woodcutting. Colville Indian Reservation forest and recreational areas within the fires are closed. See the maps at <http://tinyurl.com/OkaWen-Closure-Map> and http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprd3854418.pdf

Donation Information: The Long Term Recovery Group is accepting donations to benefit anyone affected by the Eastern Washington fires. They are located at 41 Apple Way in Okanogan (the formal Tribal Bingo Hall) <http://www.cfnew.org/fire/>. The Red Cross also accepts donations (1-800-Red-Cross).

North Star Quick Facts	
Size	217,558 ac.
Containment:	58%
Resources on the Fire	Crews: 47 Helicopters: 6 Engines: 49 Dozers: 11
Total Pers.	1,483

Additional Information



Tunk Block on Inciweb

North Star Fire: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4524/>
Tunk Block Fire: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4598/>
Blog: <https://northstarandtunkblockfires.wordpress.com>
Twitter: @OkaWenNF
Facebook: North Star Fire
Northstarfire2015@gmail.com



North Star on Inciweb