

Wenatchee Complex Fire Information

509-662-4438, 509-662-4694



Okanogan-Wenatchee
National Forest
Chelan, Entiat & Wenatchee
River Ranger Districts



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Washington State
Department of Natural
Resources



Bureau of Land Management
Spokane District



Jeff Pendleton
Incident Commander
IMT PNW Team 3

WENATCHEE COMPLEX FIRE EVACUATIONS UPDATE

September 23, 2012 – 1600 hrs

POISON CANYON

The evacuation level for Mission Creek Road, Tripp Canyon and Sand Creek Road is being reduced to a **Level 1** effective 6:00 pm today. The Poison Canyon Fire is in the final stages of mop up and should go into the fireline rehabilitation and patrol phase within the next two days. Firefighters and equipment will be in the area for several more days and motorists are advised to exercise caution as they drive these roads.

PEAVINE FIRE

The northward advance of the Peavine and Table Mountain Fires has been checked at Mission Ridge. Following the rapid fire expansion last Wednesday and Thursday, fire activity significantly moderated this weekend. The northern perimeter of the fire burned slowly to the top of Mission Ridge where firefighters were successful in holding their line. The burned area along the perimeter provides an additional barrier to future fire encroachment. Consequently, the Chelan County Sheriff's Office has lowered the evacuation level for Squilchuck and Mission Ridge Roads from the Wenatchee Heights Road south, including Halvorson Canyon and Hampton Road, to the Mission Ridge Ski Area to a **Level 2**.

STEMILT ROAD AND COLOCKUM AREA CLOSURES

A multi-agency law enforcement task force will sweep of the closure area early this week to contact citizens who may have entered the area prior to the closure. The east flank of the Table Mountain and Peavine Fires is presently uncontained. Until that is secured, the Colockum area remains highly vulnerable should there be a rapid eastward expansion. Given the remoteness and difficult access, citizens in the path of such an event would be in grave danger. It is fully recognized that the Colockum is a popular fall hunting area; however, authorities are requesting hunters and all others to obey the closure.

EVACUATION LEVEL DEFINITIONS

Evacuation Levels 1, 2, and 3 are akin to a "Ready, Set, Go" level of preparedness. Level 1 informs residents a threat exists and to be ready to evacuate if conditions worsen. Level 2 means residents should be set to go at a moment's notice. Level 3 means authorities are advising residents to evacuate due to an imminent threat to their safety.

Up-to-date information on evacuations can be heard on local media in Wenatchee or by checking www.inciweb.org/incident/3258.

PUBLIC INFORMATION NUMBERS:

Inquiries regarding fire information and evacuation levels should be directed to the Wenatchee Complex Fire Information Section at 509-662-4438 or 509-662-4694. The phones are staffed daily from 6:00 am until 10:00 pm.

For information on fire activity in Okanogan, Kittitas and Yakima Counties, please contact the Joint Information Center (JIC) at 509-664-9353.