



# Table Mountain Fire

## Fire Information Update

[www.inciweb.org/incident/3269/#](http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3269/#)

[www.fs.usda.gov/okawen](http://www.fs.usda.gov/okawen)

[www.co.kittitas.wa.us](http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us)

[www.pnw2.com](http://www.pnw2.com)

**Contact: Public Information Office 1-206-947-9705 or 1-206-947-9737**

**Hours of Operation: 7:00 AM – 9:00 PM**

### Wednesday, October 3, 2012 – 9:00 AM PDT Fire Status Update

Fire	Acres	% Contained	Total Personnel
Table Mountain	41,450	80	1,085

#### News & Events for the Table Mountain Fire:

- The strong winds that occurred in the low lying valley areas did not reach the fire area with the same intensity.
- Cooler temperatures and moderate RH recoveries minimized fire behavior last night.
- No significant growth on the fire is expected. As the fire winds down the number of resources on the fireline will diminish.
- On Tuesday night a community meeting was held at Central Washington University. Fire officials talked to community members about the status of the fire, rehabilitation plan and upcoming transition to a local Type 3 Incident Management Team.
- Hunting Season is open. The Washington Department of Natural Resources reopened all state lands to the east of Colockum Road including Colockum, Quilomene, and Whiskey Dick's Wildlife Areas. State lands in the Naneum State Forest, west of Colockum Pass Road; remain closed because of fire hazards.
- US 97 - No restrictions. Please check WSDOT website for current information: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/> or call 511.
- For more information regarding Air Quality refer to the following websites: <http://wasmoke.blogspot.com> - <http://www.ecy.wa.gov>
- The Kittitas County Emergency Operations Center will re-evaluate the evacuation levels after the current wind event subsides. For current information on evacuations contact the Kittitas County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at [www.co.kittitas.wa.us](http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us) or (509) 933-8305.

#### Table Mountain Fire Operations Summary:

- Crews continue to transition to the crucial mop up stage and will patrol all areas looking for hot spots.
- A reconnaissance flight over the fire on Tuesday afternoon confirmed that control efforts along the perimeter on target for complete containment by Saturday.
- Rehabilitation will begin on areas damaged by fire suppression activities. For example, waterbars will be installed to prevent erosion where fireline has been created on steep slopes and dozer lines will be reseeded.
- Initial attack crews continue to be staged and are ready to respond to any new fire starts in the area.

**Closures:** Local road closures remain in effect; go to the Kittitas County Emergency Operations Center, Inciweb or the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest website <http://www.fs.usda.gov/okawen> for current road and area closure information. Fire Officials will meet later this morning to re-evaluate road closures in light of successful control efforts.

**Area Closures:** As of September 26, 2012, all State lands east of the Naneum State Forest line to the Colockum Pass Road are closed due to fire hazards. Forest closures remain in place for the Naneum State Forest and for the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest east of Highway 97.

**Forest Service and Department of Natural Resource Road Closures:** Reecer Creek Road at the Sno-park, Wilson Creek Rd. at the end of the county road, Coleman Canyon Rd., Schnebly Canyon Rd., and Cook Canyon Rd. Additional roads include Liberty Rd., Liberty Mountain Association, Williams Creek Rd., Harkness Rd., Pine Gulch Rd. east of Red Top Rd., Cougar Gulch Rd., Boulder Creek Rd., Upper Green Canyon Rd., Sun East Rd. at the top of Robbins Rd., and Elk Springs Rd.

**Red Cross Shelter:** The shelter at Mercer Creek Church remains open. The church is located at 407 North "B" Street in Ellensburg. The shelter can provide meals, toiletries, showers, or other services.

**Animal Shelter:** Evacuated livestock and temporary housing for small pets is available. Shelter staff are taking calls from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday at 509-962-7639. If a need arises outside of normal business hours, please call the Emergency Operations Center at 509-933-8305.

**FIRE FACTS:**

**Table Mountain Fire: Started:** September 8, 2012 **Cause:** lightning **Location:** Cle Elum, WA/Kittitas County  
**Resources:** 23 crews, 5 helicopters, 76 engines, 6 dozers, 24 water tenders.

**RESOURCE CONCERNS:** Multiple historic cabins, archaeological sites, mines, threatened and endangered species, old growth reserves.

**WEATHER:** Northwesterly winds will remain somewhat breezy at ridge level but diminish in strength in lower valleys. One exception to this may be the highway 97 corridor and Williams creek area where the north and northeasterly running valleys will channel the general winds. With significantly cooler temperatures, it will take longer into the afternoon than normal for the diurnal up canyon southerly and southwesterly winds to counteract the northeasterly flow.

**WEATHER OUTLOOK:** Dry, sunny and continued cool. Northeast winds will follow a similar trend starting out breezy around 10 - 15 mph with gusts up to 20 mph along ridges diminishing midday and becoming more terrain driven in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 60s valleys and lower 50s ridges. Lows around 30 valleys and 40 midslope. Minimum RH's 20% to 25%.

**TODAY'S EXPECTED FIRE BEHAVIOR:** The lower relative humidity will still allow smoldering of the larger fuels and some backing fires in the fine fuels.

**COOPERATING AGENCIES & PARTNERS:** Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Fire Marshall, Kittitas County Fire Districts #1, #2, #7, Kittitas County Sheriff, Yakima County Sheriff, National Guard Resources, British Columbia Wildfire and the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest.

**TABLE MOUNTAIN FIRE SOCIAL MEDIA SITES:**

Inciweb: <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3269/>

Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/TableMountainWAFire/>

E-mail: [TableMtComplex@gmail.com](mailto:TableMtComplex@gmail.com)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/TableMountainWAFire>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/TableMtnWAFire>

Word Press: <http://tablemountainwafire.wordpress.com/>

For text message updates via Twitter (no Twitter account is necessary). Send a text message to 40404 and in the body of the message simply write "Follow TableMtnWAFire" (without the quotation marks). You'll receive a reply from 40404 confirming your request and noting instructions to stop messages when you no longer need them. Standard message rates will apply.

For satellite imagery that shows smoke from fires in the area go to the following link:  
<http://sat.wrh.noaa.gov/satellite/loopsat.php?wfo=otx&area=west&type=vis&size=1>

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