



U.S. FOREST SERVICE FIRE UPDATE

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

215 Melody Lane
Wenatchee, WA 98801

For immediate release: Wednesday, July 12, 2013 6:00 pm

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Calmer Winds Today on Sun Mountain Fire

Winthrop, WA—Conditions were more favorable for firefighting today on the Sun Mountain Fire. The wind died down and fire behavior was described as creeping, with occasional tree torching.

The fire is still estimated at about 35 acres in size tonight. It is burning in the steep terrain of the Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness; in the south fork of War Creek drainage, southwest of Winthrop, Washington.

The 16 firefighters working on the Sun Mountain Fire were joined by nine more smokejumpers this afternoon. Fixed wing and helicopter aerial support continued throughout the day.

An area closure is in place to provide for public and firefighter safety. It begins at the confluence of War Creek and the South Fork War Creek and extends southwest following Black Ridge to Sun Mt, then following Chelan Crest from Sun Mt. to Battle Mt. continuing northeast along Snowshoe Ridge to the wilderness boundary, then north along the wilderness boundary back to the beginning.

Though the name may cause some confusion, Sun Mountain Lodge is not threatened by the fire, and is in fact separated from the fire by several miles of forest, rivers and ridgetops.

Sun Mountain Fire information is available online at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3507> and updates are posted at www.twitter.com/OkaWenNF. To report a wildfire, please call 911.

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