

# Wolverine Fire Update

Fire Information 855-581-3862 or WolverineFireWA@gmail.com



Chelan County Fire Districts #7 and #10



Washington State DNR



National Park Service Department of Interior



Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest



Pacific Northwest Incident Management Team 2

## Fire Update – Friday, August 14, 2015 – 9:00 a.m.

**Wolverine Fire:** The Wolverine Fire remains active near Holden Village today. Crews will continue to monitor for spot fires, improve the buffer that surrounds the village, and maintain the heavy sprinkler work that keeps structures and nearby vegetation wet. Fire reached Hilgard Pass northwest of Holden and firefighters will be keeping a close eye on it today. Because of extreme weather conditions, burnout operations are on hold this morning, but may continue as weather permits and safety allows.

On the north end of the fire, crews continued to monitor the containment in Castle Creek, with helicopters dropping water on hot spots to keep the fire south of the planned perimeter. Fire crews improved the contingency line along the Stehekin River Trail. Today crews will continue to monitor the Castle Creek drainage and conduct fuels reduction and structure protection efforts throughout the Stehekin Valley. All businesses and travel to and from Stehekin remain open.

On the south end of the fire, topography and light fuels continue to allow for successful helicopter water drops to slow the fire's progression at the Graham Harbor/Pyramid Creek divide. The fire remains north of the southern containment line. Today, crews will continue buffering the southern containment perimeter, while monitoring for hot spots and spotting. On the Shady Pass Road, fire crews will maintain improvements to contingency lines while remaining available for initial attack.

If weather conditions permit and safety allows, firefighters will continue backhaul operations and monitoring cabins and structures along the lakeshore. As the threat of fire damage has passed, structure wrap and sprinklers will be removed from most of the cabins.

Many firefighters assigned to this incident remain available to respond to new starts resulting from yesterday's and this morning's lightning event.

**Blankenship Fire:** The fire continues to smolder with minimal movement. The objective is to monitor the fire to see if it remains confined within the natural barriers. The terrain is very steep and rugged and firefighter safety is our number one priority.

**Weather:** A **Red Flag Warning** is in effect today for thunderstorms and gusty outflow winds until 2:00 p.m. An upper level trough will bring strong northwesterly winds of 20 to 30 mph, with gusts up to 40 mph on Lake Chelan and nearby slopes. In the Railroad Creek drainage, westerly winds are expected at 20 to 30 mph with gusts up to 45 mph. Locally heavy downpours may occur through mid-afternoon and taper off in the evening. A **Flash Flood Watch** is in effect from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Temperatures will be cooler today, at 75 to 80 degrees in the valleys and 60 to 65 degrees on the ridges, with higher relative humidity.

**Expected Fire Behavior:** Today's higher humidity and lower temperatures will not have a dampening effect on fire behavior, as fuel moistures will remain very low and winds could still lead to torching and increase spotting distance. Fire will be active near ridge tops and movement is expected to continue up Railroad Creek drainage. Gusty outflow winds associated with thunderstorms will increase spotting potential and fire movement where fuels are continuous.

**Closure Information:** Shady Pass Road (5900) remains closed due to heavy fire equipment traffic. The closure begins at the junction with Slide Ridge Road (8410) and continues over Shady Pass to the Entiat River Road. Slide Ridge Road and Snowberry Campground are open. The Big Hill Road is closed from Shady Pass to the Big Hill Trailhead. Graham Harbor, Graham Harbor Creek, Domke Lake, Domke Falls, Manly Wham, Lucerne and Refrigerator Harbor campgrounds are closed until further notice. The Pacific Crest Trail detour also remains in effect.

**Camp Tour Canceled:** Because of new fire starts and firefighters on initial attack, the camp tour has been cancelled.

**Chelan Community Meeting Today:** There will be an informative community meeting with a presentation by Wolverine Fire management personnel and a chance to ask questions about the fire. The meeting is **tonight, 7:00 pm** at Chelan High School, 215 W Webster Ave.

Quick Facts Incident Summary	
Approximate Acreages	Wolverine Fire: 37,792 ac. Blankenship Fire: 172 ac.
Fire Containment:	20%
Incident Commander:	Chris Schulte, Pacific Northwest National Incident Management Team 2
Resources on the Fires:	Crews: 9 Engines: 19 Water Tenders: 6 Bulldozers: 2 Helicopters: 5
Total Personnel:	488
Structures Lost: 4	1 Residence 3 other structures
Jurisdiction:	Chelan Co. Fire Districts #7 and #10 Chelan Co Sheriff Washington State DNR USDA-Forest Service National Park Service
Evacuations	Level 3 evacuations remain in effect for Holden Village, Lucerne, Domke Lake, Riddle, and Lightning Creek.

### SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4354/>

**Twitter:** @WolverineFire

**Facebook:** Wolverine Fire

**Highway Information:** Twitter: @wsdot

<http://www.wsdot.com/traffic/trafficalerts/>

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

**Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest:**

<http://goo.gl/nXrciP>

**Chelan County Emergency Management on**

**Facebook:** <https://goo.gl/ekuHGZ>

