

# Chelan Complex/Wolverine/Black Canyon Fires Update

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



Chelan County  
Fire Districts #7  
and #10



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
Natural Resources

Washington State DNR



National Park Service  
Department of Interior



Okanogan-Wenatchee  
National Forest



Pacific Northwest Incident  
Management Team 2



Bureau of  
Land Management  
Department of Interior

## Fire Update – Wednesday, August 19, 2015 – 9:00 a.m.

Yesterday's low winds and stable conditions allowed crews to build containment lines and contingency lines while implementing structure protection on several fire fronts. Firefighters remain focused on extended attack both day and night, and are working offensively to implement a containment strategy. Teams from several national, state, and local agencies and organizations are assisting in this effort. Six helicopters are dropping water, shuttling crews, and conducting reconnaissance missions throughout the fires. Two fixed wing aircraft are conducting water and retardant drops as needed.

**Chelan Complex:** Fire behavior was moderate, with flames backing downhill and occasional tree torching on the fire's western and northwestern edge as it moved towards Cooper Ridge. Crews continued constructing containment lines along Cooper Ridge and FS Road 8020, while providing for structure and point protection. Along the northeast, dozerline from last year's Carlton Complex was reopened as potential contingency line from Hwy 97 to Alta Lake. To the south and southeast, dozerline expanded several miles along the fire perimeter while handcrews continued mop-up 200 feet inside the perimeter. Today crews will provide point protection for structures and infrastructure, look for unburned fuel flare-ups, continue mop-up, and build dozer line along parts of Cooper Ridge and FS Road 8020.

**Black Canyon and McFarland Creek** burned into each other yesterday. Fire behavior is very active with short crown runs, group torching, and flames backing downhill. Crews focused on indirect suppression strategies such as brushing, clearing out roads, and securing anchor points, while using direct attack strategies when possible. Today work will continue along Cooper Ridge to keep the fire from spreading south towards Manson. The fire is in very steep terrain, and many locations do not safely allow for dozers or handcrews to build line.

**First Creek:** Crews constructed dozer line from the fire's southern containment line north to Granite Falls Road. On the northwest perimeter the fire flanked north, exhibiting crowning and spotting – thwarting attempts to contain the fire. Crews improved previously-built dozer line from the lakeshore to Navarre Coulee on the southern perimeter, and from the lake shore about a mile up the ridge on the northern perimeter. The fire burned at least one structure and continues to threaten several other structures. Today crews will provide structure protection and control for spotting while continuing to secure the line from Granite Creek to First Creek. The fire is near the Cove area on the northeast corner, remains north of First Creek, and has not reached Lake Chelan State Park.

**Wolverine:** Two falling modules were inserted into the area to cut down hazard trees in Holden Village and along the road to Lucerne. Five engines were removed from Stehekin yesterday, leaving one behind. Level 3 evacuations remain for Holden Village, Lucerne, Domke Lake, Riddle, and Lightning Creek.

**Weather:** A **Red Flag Warning** is in effect for hot, dry, and unstable conditions from 11:00 a.m. Wednesday to 5:00 p.m. Friday. Expect light morning winds, gradually increasing to 15-20 mph from the northwest by mid-afternoon. Relative humidity will drop to 14-19% with temperatures increasing to 93 degrees. Gusty northwest winds are expected to continue through Friday afternoon, increasing the potential for torching, crowning, and spotting.

**Closure Information:** Extensive trail and area closures on Forest Service lands remain in effect, more information available on InciWeb. Contact Washington State Department of Transportation or Chelan County Emergency Management for information about Chelan area road closures. Contact Douglas County Emergency Management for road closures in Douglas County.

**Evacuation/Aid Information:** **Level 3 evacuations in place** for approximately 1,000 residents in the greater Chelan area. Evacuation information available from Chelan County Emergency Management. Red Cross shelters are established at **MOE Elementary**, 407 East Woodin Ave, Chelan; **Sterling Middle School**, 600 North James Street, East Wenatchee; and **Brewster High School**, 503 S 7th St, Brewster.

**Douglas County Emergency Management:** 509-888-6841

**Chelan County Emergency Management:** 509-667-6863

**Okanogan Emergency Management:** 509-422-7207

**Red Cross:** 509-663-3907

**Chelan County PUD:** 877-783-8123

**Washington State Patrol:** 509-682-8090

Quick Facts Incident Summary	
Approximate Acreages:	Chelan Cpx: 69,445, ac. First Creek: 1,731 ac. Black Canyon: 6,761 ac. McFarland Crk: 4,708 ac. Wolverine: 40,470 ac. Blankenship: 180 ac. <b>Total: 123,295 ac.</b>
Fire Containment:	Chelan Complex: 50% First Creek: 2% Black Canyon: 0% McFarland Creek: 0% Wolverine: 30% Blankenship: 0%
Incident Commander:	Chris Schulte, Pacific Northwest National Incident Management Team 2
Resources on the Fires:	Crews: 28 Engines: 109 Water Tenders: 22 Bulldozers: 19 Helicopters: 6 Fixed Wing: 2
Total Personnel:	1,139
Approximate Structures Lost:	Chelan County: 56 Douglas County: 17 (residences, businesses, and outbuildings)
Jurisdiction:	Chelan Co. Fire Districts #7 and #10 Chelan Co. Sheriff Washington State DNR USDA-Forest Service National Park Service Bureau of Land Mgmt.

### INTERNET LINKS

#### InciWeb:

Chelan Cpx <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4538/>

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

**Twitter:** @WolverineFire

**Facebook:** Reach Complex/Wolverine/Black Canyon Fires

**Road & Hwy Info:** [wsdot.com](http://wsdot.com) **Twitter:** @wsdot

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

**Okanogan-Wenatchee NF:** <http://goo.gl/nXrciP>

**Chelan Co. EMS:** <http://tinyurl.com/ChelanCtyEM>

**Douglas Co. EMS:** <http://tinyurl.com/DouglasCtyEM>

**Chelan Co. PUD:** <http://www.chelanpud.org/>

**Power info on Twitter:** @chelanpud