

Norse Peak Fire Update

Monday, September 18, 2017 – Morning Update

CONTACT: Fire Information 509-658-2475 (7:30 am.-7:30 p.m.)

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www.facebook.com/NorsePeakFire/



Date Started: Aug. 11, 2017; Cause: Lightning; Acreage: 52,502 (Norse Peak), 3,853 (American), 56,355 (Total); Containment: 12%; Injuries: 3 (Minor).

Total Personnel: 661; Fire Resources: 19 Crews, 26 Engines, 5 Helicopters, 1 Bulldozers, 9 water tenders.

Fire Summary: The Pacific Northwest Incident Management Team 3 with Incident Commander Noel Livingston assumed command of the South Zone of the Norse Peak and American fires on Sunday, September 17, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. The Saw Mill fire will transfer to the command of the Pacific Northwest Incident Management Team 3 on September 19, 2017 at 6:00 a.m.

Precipitation was seen across the fire area yesterday and more is expected today, although the east side is forecasted to receive significantly less rain than the west side.

Norse Peak Fire Overview: The fire is expected to continue to slowly back downhill and flank west and south toward Crystal Mountain and State Route (SR) 410. SR 410 is being cleared of debris and hazardous snag trees are being removed. Hazard fuel reduction efforts along FS 1900 are almost complete.

The Incident Management Team is working closely with the Washington Department of Transportation to open SR 410 as soon as it is safe for the firefighters and public. It is not possible to accurately predict when 410 reopens, however any news regarding the opening of the roadway will be announced on Inciweb and Facebook.

Norse Peak Fire North Zone (Pierce County): On the west side of the Norse Peak Fire, crews are focusing on The Dalles, Crystal Mountain Communities, and Alta Crystal Resort areas. They have completed control lines and have placed sprinkler systems to assist in structure defense.

Norse Peak Fire South Zone (Yakima County): Yesterday, due to decreased fire activity on the southeast corner of the fire, resources were redirected from other divisions. On the northwest corner, south zone and north zone crews are working to connect indirect line. Crews continue to build contingency lines around the Government Meadows Cabin and Boy Scout Camp.

The American Fire continues to back downhill south to the Bumping River Road and north toward the American River and SR 410. The structure group continues to monitor structures along the Bumping River Road.

CLOSURES: SR 410 will remain closed from SR 123 east to Bumping River Road. SR 410 on the west side of the Cascades and Highway 123 remains open. Bumping River Road and Crystal Mountain Boulevard remain closed. The Pacific Crest Trail is closed from White Pass to Snoqualmie Pass. Boulder Cave Recreation Area is closed.

PIERCE COUNTY EVACUATIONS:

LEVEL 1: Forest Service Rd 70 eastbound SR 410 to Forest Service road 73.

LEVEL 2: Forest Service Rd 73 eastbound SR 410 to FS 7160 (Ranger Creek).

LEVEL 3: Forest Service Rd 70 eastbound SR 410 to Forest Service road 73. Silver Creek, Deep Creek, Goat Creek, Alta Community, Pick Handle Basin, Gold Hill Community and the Crystal Mountain Ski Resort area.

YAKAMA COUNTY:

LEVEL 3: Goose Prairie along Bumping River Road.

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Fire closures can be found at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/okawen/alerts-notice>.

Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest closures can be found at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/mbs/alerts-notice>.

Mt. Rainier National Park updates can be found at: <https://www.nps.gov/mora/index.htm>.

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife hunting/fishing information and closures, please contact at 360-902-2200.