

Chelan Complex 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



Bureau of
Land Management
Department of Interior

Fire Update – Monday, August 17, 2015 – 9:00 a.m.

The Chelan Complex (Reach, Antoine, Cagle Fires) challenged firefighters and threatened many structures over the last 24 hours. Crews continued structure protection efforts on several fire fronts, while putting plans into place for building containment lines where possible. Resources from several agencies have been working to protect homes and slow the fires' spread.

Firefighters remain focused on extended attack both day and night, and are scouting opportunities to work offensively to implement a containment strategy. Several resources have been mobilized to assist in the firefighting effort, including teams from the Washington Department of Natural Resources, State Fire Marshal, and Army National Guard. A night shift of five state mobilized strike teams (of five engines each) is assisting with firefighting activities. Six helicopters are assisting with water drops, crew shuttle, and reconnaissance. Additionally, two fixed wing aircraft will be conducting water and retardant drops as needed.

Chelan Complex is actively spreading in several directions, burning in brush, short grass, and timber to the north of Chelan and on both sides of the Columbia River. Burnouts and dozer lines completed on the southern flank held the fire, protecting many homes and areas along the Columbia River. Yesterday and last night, on the northwestern flank near Washington Creek and Echo Ridge, firefighters worked to protect structures, build dozer line, and control spotting. The fire has slowly spread into the east side of Union Valley and northwest to Washington Butte. Today firefighters will be working from established anchor points and provide point and zone protection for structures and infrastructure.

First Creek Fire is actively spreading north and west in brush and timber, 8 miles northwest of Chelan on the South Shore. The fire is very active, with crowning and spotting. The fire continues to threaten residences along South Lake Shore Road, Lake Chelan State Park, First Creek Rd, and SR 971. Firefighters have conducted hand-firing operations and are working to provide structure protection from TwentyFive Mile Creek to Navarre Coulee, as well as assessing opportunities to control the fire perimeter at the north and south. The fire is near the Cove area on the northeast corner, remains north of First Creek, and has not reached Lake Chelan State Park.

Black Canyon and **McFarland Creek** fires are actively burning in timber, brush, and short grass approximately 8 miles west of Pateros, in Okanogan County. Fire behavior is extreme with significant crowning, group torching, flanking and spotting. The fire is in very steep terrain and firefighters are using direct and indirect tactics to limit fire growth and determining point protection locations.

Wolverine Fire: On the north and south ends, the fire stayed within planned containment lines. Firefighters have finished burnout operations around Holden Village and are continuing with mop up and structure protection in that area. As safety allows, resources may continue to be removed from this fire to assist with extended attack on the other fires. Level 3 evacuations remain for Holden Village, Lucerne, Domke Lake, Riddle, and Lightning Creek.

Weather: Light winds 3-7 mph in the morning, increasing to 7-10 mph in the afternoon. Relative humidity at 20-25% with temperatures in the mid 80's.

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 2,750 residents in the greater Chelan area. Evacuation information available from Chelan County Emergency Management. Red Cross shelters are established at **Entiat Valley Resource Center**, 2084 Entiat Way, Entiat, and **Sterling Middle School**, 600 North James Street, East Wenatchee.

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: 56,500 ac. First Creek: 1,424 ac. Black Canyon: 3,449 ac. McFarland Creek: 384 ac. Wolverine Fire: 38,989 ac. Blankenship Fire: 180 ac. Total: 101,926 ac.
Fire Containment:	Chelan Complex: 0% First Creek: 0% 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: 22 Engines: 87 Water Tenders: 24 Bulldozers: 19 Helicopters: 6 Fixed Wing: 2
Total Personnel:	937
Approximate Structures Lost:	21 Confirmed
Jurisdiction:	Chelan Co. Fire Districts #7 and #10 Chelan Co. Sheriff Washington State DNR USDA-Forest Service National Park Service Bureau of Land Mgmt.

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

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

Twitter: @WolverineFire

Facebook: Reach Complex/Wolverine/Black Canyon Fires

Road & Hwy Info: wsdot.com **Twitter:** @wsdot

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

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest:

<http://goo.gl/nXrciP>

Chelan Co. Emergency Management:

<https://goo.gl/ekuHGZ>

Power info on Twitter: @chelanpud