

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns>
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BLM

Burns District Office

MILLER HOMESTEAD FIRE UPDATE: JULY 11, 8:30 A.M.

HINES, Ore. – Firefighters working the Miller Homestead fire were again tested on Tuesday as high temperatures, rocky terrain and erratic winds challenged suppression and control efforts. Active fire behavior on numerous fronts with flame lengths in excess of 10-15 feet were reported into the night. Since its start on Sunday, the fire has grown to 45,000 acres and threatened at least 3 residences, numerous outbuildings, livestock, grazing allotments, and the community of Frenchglen, Oregon.

A single, long-abandoned structure was lost along the southeast east flank Tuesday afternoon. Other residences received considerable structure protection from ground and air resources and avoided damage. Four Single Engine Air Tankers, dozens of engines, dozers, a helicopter and a Type III Incident Management Team are assisting with suppression efforts. The incident command post and camp for the Miller Homestead fire is set up at the Frenchglen State Yard. The incident is approximately 10 percent contained.

Highway 205 South was closed Tuesday afternoon around 2:00 p.m. from milepost 58 to 66, from Frenchglen to Rock Creek Lane due to wildfire in close proximity. This section of highway has been reopened, however, travelers are encouraged to drive with caution, watch for smoke and emergency vehicles and avoid the area of at all possible.

Page Springs Campground near Frenchglen, Oregon was also closed Tuesday afternoon to help alleviate congestion between the visiting public and firefighting personnel. There is no immediate danger to travelers on Steens Mountain. Fish Lake and Jackman Park Campgrounds and the Steens Mountain Loop Road remain open.

A public meeting to discuss the Miller Homestead fire is scheduled for Wednesday, July 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the Burns Interagency Fire Guard Station in Frenchglen, Oregon. Those interested are encouraged to attend to see maps of the fire and talk with personnel managing the incident on the ground.

Today firefighters will continue providing structure protection to threatened areas and work to secure containment lines around the fire. Regular updates on the Miller Homestead fire are available online at www.inciweb.org. Search for the “Miller Homestead” fire in Oregon for the latest details, closures, announcements, photos and maps.

Fire danger remains MODERATE within the Burns Interagency Fire Zone and the Industrial Fire Precaution Level is a level two. A regulated fire closure is in effect for the east side of Steens Mountain.

Visitors should use caution when traveling through and recreating in the outdoors this time of year.

For more information on current wildfire activity, call 573-4519 or go online to www.inciweb.org.

To report a wildfire, call 573-1000.

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