



BIFZ

Burns Interagency Fire Zone



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Hines, Oregon 97738
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Wildfire Activity Update – Considerable Progress Made on South End Complex

BURNS, Oregon – Cooler weather allowed firefighters to make considerable progress on the South End Complex wildfires yesterday. Burning in southeast Oregon near the communities of Fields and Frenchglen, over 115,000 acres have been charred since Monday. Containment estimates and acreages for the three fires within the complex include: The Pueblo Fire, 45 percent contained at 78,103 acres; 2) the Granddad Fire, 40 percent contained at 33,475 acres; and 3) the Krumbo Ridge Fire, 90 percent contained at 3,362 acres.

Earlier this week, the Pueblo Fire threatened primary residences, power distribution lines, numerous scattered improvements and the community of Fields, Oregon. One historic structure and one outbuilding – possibly a small cabin – were burned and an additional outbuilding was damaged. Threats have been notably reduced with the cooler temperatures and significant progress toward containment. Fire behavior was moderate yesterday with similar expectations for today, however hotter and drier conditions predicted for the weekend may mean fire activity could increase yet again.

Type 1 Incident Management Team Opliger from Southern California continues administration of the South End Complex and will be working out of a fire base camp set up in the Home Creek area south of Frenchglen. Camp is expected to be fully operational by this evening.

Aside from the South End Complex, southeast Oregon is dealing with another large fire – the Crater Fire, located approximately 4 miles east of Buena Vista, Oregon. Since its start on Monday, the Crater Fire has burned 9,045 acres and is currently 60 percent contained. In addition, two arrests were made yesterday in conjunction with the fires previously of undetermined cause in the Krumbo Ridge/Granddad Fire area.

Several local road closures and evacuations have been put in place as a result of the high fire activity. Those include:

- 1) Moon Hill Road closed from the junction at Diamond to the Steens Mountain Loop Road
- 2) Steens Mountain Loop Road closed from Page Springs Campground to the East Rim Overlook
- 3) Malheur National Wildlife Refuge North Center Patrol Road closed from the junction at Malheur Field Station south to the junction at Buena Vista Pond
- 4) Fish Lake and Jackman Park Campgrounds on Steens Mountain are under a mandatory evacuation
- 5) Page Springs Campground is under a voluntary evacuation
- 6) East Steens Road closed from the junction at Fields north approximately 25-30 miles



- 7) Alvord Hot Springs and Wildhorse Canyon area residences are under a voluntary evacuation
- 8) Recreation use at Diamond Craters is strongly discouraged
- 9) State Highway 205 is closed at the Hart Mountain junction south to Fields

All road closures and evacuations will remain effective until further notice. Travelers are encouraged to avoid these areas if at all possible. **Closures may change frequently – call ahead for the most current situation.**

Fire danger is rated **VERY HIGH** and the Industrial Fire Precaution Level is at a level 4. A regulated fire closure and public use restrictions for all public lands within the BIFZ are in effect.

For more information on current fire activity or public use restrictions, call (541) 573-4519. For 24-hour recorded information, call (541) 573-4555. South End Complex fire information can be found on the web at www.inciweb.org.

To report a wildfire, call (541) 573-1000.

