



**Pacific Northwest Region**  
**Malheur National Forest**  
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# News Release

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## Beech Creek Fire Update

John Day, Hines and Prairie City, OR. — (August 02, 2022) Multiple resources from the Malheur National Forest, Grayback Forestry, Inc., and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) responded to a reported wildfire on Monday afternoon. Crews worked into the night concentrating on structure protection.

The Beech Creek fire has burned approximately 200 acres and is zero percent contained. U.S. Highway 395 is closed northbound and southbound between Long Creek at milepost 90 and Mt. Vernon at mile post 120 due to the fire on both sides of the road. The cause of the fire is undetermined and is under investigation.

"The safety of our firefighters and the public is our top priority" said Ron Simpson, Fire & Aviation Staff Officer. The Forest Service is continuing to work with its partners, ODF and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to re-establish power lost to downed power lines, open the highway, keep the fire from spreading on to private land and to protect private structures.

A wetting rain around 4 a.m. this morning moderated fire behavior but the hot and dry weather continues to accelerate the drying of fuels. Similar fire behavior is expected for today.

A Type 3 Team assumed command to at 9 a. m. this morning and are working to establish an Incident Action Plan, create maps and set up Fire Camp.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook for fire updates.



Ariel view of the Beech Creek Fire. Forest Service photo by Eric Miller

[https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/malheur/fire/?cid=fsbdev3\\_033802](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/malheur/fire/?cid=fsbdev3_033802)

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For more information please call: 541-575-3000

For current Public Use Restrictions and Industrial Fire Precaution Levels call: 541-575-3113.

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