

Cow Canyon Fire Update

NORTHWEST INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM 12

Incident Commanders: Jeff Dimke and Bobby Shindelar

August 8, 2022

The fire is currently burning approximately 11 miles north of Naches, WA through the Manastash border of Yakima and Kittitas Counties. The Incident Command Post at the Kittitas Fairgrounds in Ellensburg is closed to all but essential personnel to help ensure the health and safety of community members and firefighters.

Weather

Today will be hot and dry, with temperatures in the mid-90s in the Cow Canyon Fire area. The National Weather Service has issued a Heat Advisory for noon today through Tuesday night. There is a chance for showers and thunderstorms Tuesday night and Wednesday.

Operations

Yesterday in the northwest portion of the fire, a helicopter completed water bucket drops to cool hot spots in areas of unburned fuel inside containment lines. Several additional resources and fire crews were reassigned to the Cow Canyon Fire due to decreasing activity on the Vantage Highway Fire.

The warmer temperatures and drier air have the potential to increase fire behavior today. Firefighters will be vigilant with these changing weather conditions as they continue to strengthen and add depth to existing control lines around the fire. Fire crews and engines from the Cow Canyon Fire are available to respond to any new fire starts nearby. Several Interagency Hotshot Crews have been working on securing a complex piece of the northwestern fire boundary in rugged terrain, and they will continue that work today. Around the remaining fire perimeter, fire crews will mop-up and patrol, looking for any remaining heat sources near fire control lines.

Closures

The entirety of the Wenas Wildlife Area is temporarily closed for human safety due to the Cow Canyon Fire.

Evacuations

All evacuations for the Cow Canyon Fire in both Yakima and Kittitas Counties were downgraded to level 1 yesterday.

Evacuation details for Yakima County are at <https://www.facebook.com/YakimaCountyOEM> and for Kittitas County are at <https://tinyurl.com/2225ruhs>.



COW CANYON FIRE

SIZE: 5,832 acres

CONTAINMENT: 30%

CAUSE: Under Investigation

PERSONNEL: 460

RESOURCES:

Hand Crews: 18

Engines: 14

Dozers: 8

Water Tenders: 6

Helicopter: 1

FIRE INFORMATION:

509-557-0063

2022.cowcanyon@firenet.gov

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/cwafireinfo>

INCIWEB:

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8305/>

TEMPORARY FLIGHT RESTRICTION

A Temporary Flight Restriction is in place over the Cow Canyon Fire. Please consult the Notice to Airman for specifics. Wildfires are a No Drone Zone.