

Cedar Creek Fire

August 14, 2022

Daily Update – 8:00 AM



Acres: 4,256 | **Contained:** 0% | **Total personnel:** 722 | **Start Date:** August 1, 2022 | **Cause:** Lightning | **Location:** 15 miles E of Oakridge, OR | **Fuels:** Heavy mixed conifer, ponderosa pine, brush, and grass

There will be an in-person community meeting at the Oakridge High School auditorium tonight at 6:00 pm

Highlights: Crews finished removing brush and piling small diameter woody material on Forest Road (FR) 2417 and Black Creek Road (FR 2421) yesterday. Firefighters and heavy equipment, that began this work on August 8, will now be reassigned to other priority prep work on road systems around the fire. Heavy equipment including feller-bunchers and masticators are continuing work on the shaded fuel break on the contingency fireline from Highway 58 north to FR 19. Crews are working in two separate groups, one from the highway north to FR24, and the second group is working from FR 19 south to FR 24. Firefighters observed increased fire behavior from Friday's test firing operation that was completed using aerial ignitions. Over 800 Plastic Sphere Dispenser (PSD) also known as "ping pong balls" were released from a helicopter over the western and southwestern flank of the fire. These incendiary devices ignite when they hit the ground, creating low intensity fire behavior. Firefighters can control fire behavior by controlling the timing and release of the PSDs.

Operations: Heavy equipment will be continuing to work along the FR 5883 road system north of Highway 58 today. Masticators and graders will remove roadside vegetation and small diameter trees on these roads up to and around Fuji Mountain to create a primary containment line for the fire. Interagency Hotshot Crews will continue scouting for opportunities to create a containment line connecting Black Creek Road to Waldo Lake through the roadless area. On the north side of the fire, crews are also scouting for opportunities to connect FR 2417 to Waldo Lake. The Hotshot crews are looking for trails that could be used as holding features or areas where fireline can be reasonably constructed on more moderate slopes and flat areas to minimize resource damage. Fire managers will be monitoring the fire in the area of previous aerial ignitions, and if conditions are favorable, they could continue with PSD ignitions on the southern side of the fire.

Evacuations: Currently, there are no evacuations in place.

Weather: Temperatures are forecast to increase slightly, with highs in the upper 80s. The relative humidity is predicted between 25-35 percent. Winds will be terrain driven in most areas with ridgetops and exposed areas seeing northwest winds 3 to 6 mph with gusts to 12 mph in the afternoon.

Closures: An [Area Closure](#) is in place for the Cedar Creek Fire. This includes all trailheads and dispersed camping west and north of Waldo Lake. The lake itself, campgrounds, and trails (including the PCT) on the east side remain open. A [Temporary Flight Restriction \(TFR\)](#) is in place.

Restrictions: [Fire restrictions](#) are in place on the Willamette National Forest with the exception of the Three Sisters, Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington, Waldo Lake, and Diamond Peak Wilderness areas. All campfires, charcoal or briquette fires, pellet fires, or any other fires will be prohibited, except in designated campgrounds. Portable cooking stoves, lanterns, and heaters using liquefied or bottled fuel are still allowed if they can be switched on and off. Motorized vehicles may operate only on designated trails and roads, including within the Huckleberry Flats and Santiam Pass OHV areas.

Smoke: Smoke Forecast Outlooks (in both English and Spanish) are available at <https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook>. Air quality in Oakridge, Oregon is expected to be good with the best time of day to recreate outdoors being late afternoon.

Fire Information: Office Hours: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM | **Phone:** 541-201-2335 | **Email:** 2022.cedarcreek@firenet.gov | **Online:** <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8307/> | <https://www.facebook.com/CedarCreekFire2022/> | <https://www.facebook.com/willamettenf> | <https://twitter.com/willametteNF> | **YouTube:** <https://www.tinyurl.com/cedarcreekfireyoutube>