

FIRE UPDATE

Wednesday, Aug. 24



Brian Gales, Incident Commander

Eric Riener, IC Trainee

Fire size: 676 acres	Start date: Aug. 17, 2022	https://www.facebook.com/rumcreekfire2022
Containment: 0%	Fire information: 541-625-0849	https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8348/

Rum Creek Fire reaches the lower Rogue River River open to permit holders today

MERLIN, Ore. – As the Rum Creek Fire creeps toward the Rogue River’s south shoreline, firefighters are assessing ways to combat potential spot fires.

Spot fires occur when winds carry embers across an established fireline or fuel break. In addition to building line around the main fire, firefighters are working to contain a spot fire near Mouse Creek on the east perimeter.

The Bureau of Land Management, Grants Pass Field Office, in coordination with the Northwest Incident Management Team 13, has decided to re-open the Lower Section of the Wild and Scenic Rogue River at Grave Creek to permit holders, with limitations.

The river will remain open unless life safety becomes an issue and the open/closed status will be posted at <https://www.facebook.com/rumcreekfire2022> no later than 6 a.m. daily. For more information, call 541-479-3735.

Aviation support has been critical to slowing the fire’s progression in the steep, rugged terrain of the canyon. Nine helicopters are now dedicated to the incident for water bucket drops and aerial reconnaissance.

On the east flank of the fire, primary lines from the ridgetop towards the river were completed Tuesday and plumbing has begun. Crews are now working to establish contingency lines.

Weather: Winds will be out of the north on ridgetops, with gusts up to 20 miles per hour. Diurnal winds across the Rogue Valley are affecting the fire’s movement, causing occasional upslope runs.

Closures: Although boat traffic is allowed again, an area closure remains in effect for the Rainie Falls Trail and other BLM-managed lands along the river corridor below Grave Creek.

Restrictions: Fire restrictions are in place across the BLM Medford District. Campfires and all other types of open fires, including charcoal briquettes, are prohibited; motor vehicles (including motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles) and parking are restricted to developed roads and areas clear of vegetation.

For a complete list of restrictions, go to <https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/aviation/regional-info/oregon-washington/fire-restrictions>.

Updates: To receive daily updates via email, send a request to 2022.rumcreek@firenet.gov.