Malheur National Forest, Region 6

## **Forest Service News Release**

**Fire Information Line: (530) 394-8212** 

Fire Information Email: 2022.crocketsknob@firenet.gov

## Crockets Knob Fire Update - August 25, 2022

Location: 19 miles north of Prairie City, Oregon

Start Date: August 22, 2022

Cause: Lightning

Current Size: 225 acres
Containment: 0%

**Current Situation:** The Crockets Knob Fire was reported the morning of August 22 after abundant lightning moved through the Malheur National Forest. The fire is predominantly moving south/southeast, burning through timber and brush within the 1996 Summit Fire scar, but active fire behavior is observed along all flanks. Due to the rugged terrain and level of fire activity, there is limited access for fire crews to safely engage the fire directly. Firefighters and heavy equipment are making good progress along the 45 and 537 Roads, removing brush and timber to create a fuel break, with the intent to establish indirect containment lines. There are currently 140 personnel working on the incident including two Interagency Hotshot Crews, fire engines, heavy equipment, helicopters, and fixed-wing aircraft. There are no structures immediately threatened.

**Evacuations:** There are no evacuations in place.

Closures: Road, trail, campground, and area closures are in effect. This includes portions of Forest Service Road (FSR) 45 from County Road 20 north to Indian Rock Trailhead, as well as portions of FSR 4550 from FSR 4555 west to the intersection of FSR 45. The Princess Trail is closed from the trailhead to Forest Service Trail (FST) #251, as well as the Big Boulder Trail from the trailhead north to Head O'Boulder camp. Additionally, Indian Rock Trail is closed from Head O'Boulder camp north to Sharp Ridge/Squaw Rock trailhead. Head O'Boulder camp is also closed. An area closure is also in effect from FSR 45, south to FSR 4550, east to FSR 749, north to FSR 436, north to FST #251, northwest to FSR 537, then west back to the junction of FSR 45. For full area closure information and map, please visit <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur.">https://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur.</a>

**Smoke:** Smoke may be visible to nearby communities and Forest visitors. Smoke and air quality impacts within the state can be monitored by visiting: <a href="http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com">http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com</a>.

**Public Safety:** The closure order is in place to provide for public and firefighter safety during an active and developing wildfire incident. Please review all current closures before heading out to recreate in the area. With archery season opening Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, hunters should plan around the closure area when scouting potential camp locations and hunting grounds. Additionally, the public are encouraged to be aware of the HIGH fire danger on the Malheur National Forest. Current fire conditions and public use restrictions can be found on the Forest webpage: <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur">https://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur</a>.

## Fire Information:

Inciweb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8355/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/MalheurNationalForest

Twitter: https://twitter.com/MalheurNF

