

## Double Creek and Eagle Cap Wilderness Fires

September 3, 2022

Daily Update – 8:00 AM



**Highlights:** Pacific Northwest Team 2 assumed command of the Double Creek and Eagle Cap Wilderness Fires (Sturgill, Nebo, and Goat Mountain) at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 3.

**Double Creek Fire:** 3,843 acres | 0% contained | 192 personnel assigned

The lightning caused Double Creek Fire is a full suppression fire, and the protection of lives and property are the primary objectives of this incident. Firefighters will minimize fire spread to the north and west of the Double Creek Fire to prevent adverse impacts to values along the Imnaha River and the community of Imnaha. Overnight, the Double Creek Fire moved into Adams and Double Creek drainages. There was also additional growth in the Granny Creek drainage towards Freezeout Road. Today, firefighters will continue to focus on providing structure protection along the Imnaha River and Freezeout Roads. They are also working to keep the fire east of the Upper Imnaha Road and will improve dozer lines on the west side of the fire. On the north side and west sides of the fire, firefighters will be scouting ridges to identify control features and keep the fire out of Hells Canyon. Aircraft will assist firefighters on the ground, as conditions allow, to minimize the spread of the fire.

### **Eagle Cap Wilderness Fires:**

There are four lightning caused fires within the Eagle Cap Wilderness. Goat Mountain 1 is less than one acre and currently not active. The Sturgill, Nebo, and Goat Mountain 2 Fires are active and have been managed to protect values at risk, such as public and private infrastructure, while playing a natural role within designated Wilderness. Firefighters will use strategies to protect public and private structures and infrastructure where necessary and safe to do so.

**Sturgill Fire:** 6,564 acres | 0% contained | 35 personnel assigned

The Blacktooth Wildland Fire Module (WFM) is working with Eagle Cap WFM at Minam River Lodge to complete structure protection assessments for private inholdings along the Minam River. Smokejumpers are working on the east side of the fire to help check fire spread in the Bear Creek drainage. Firing operations will continue to be used to promote backing fire in Threemile Creek drainage and to help limit the potential for uphill runs.

**Nebo Fire:** 3,856 acres | 0% contained | 25 personnel assigned

There was some fire growth in the Gardner drainage overnight. Today, firefighters will be working on Forest Service Road (FSR) 100, FSR 200, and FSR 3925 to prepare for firing operations to limit fire spread outside of wilderness to the north and east. They will continue monitoring spot fires in the Imnaha corridor and use aircraft to limit fire spread south of Imnaha Divide. Helicopters are assisting firefighters on the ground with bucket drops of water to suppress spot fires on the north and south sides of the fire.

**Goat Mountain 2 Fire:** 100 acres | 0% contained | 7 personnel assigned

Firefighters will monitor the Goat Mountain 2 Fire from lookouts and aircraft. If needed, they will take action to suppress the fire in Lostline Canyon. The fire is surrounded by rocky terrain on three sides.

**Weather:** Temperatures will be in the 70s on ridgetops and 80s on the lower elevations with relative humidity values of 15-20 percent on the ridges and 8-14 percent in the drainages. South winds will be

10-20 mph on ridges and 7-14 mph on the lower slopes. There is a slight chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Temperatures will cool to the mid-50s in the evening with relative humidity values of 50%.

**Smoke:** An Air Resource Advisor has been ordered to assist in the development of localized smoke forecast outlooks. The smoke forest outlooks, when available, will be posted to the [Smoke Forecast Outlooks website](#) and on InciWeb. Air quality information is also available on the [PurpleAir website](#).

**Evacuations:** There are current evacuations in place for the **Double Creek Fire**. Hat Point and Freezeout Roads are under a **Level 3 “Go Now”** evacuation. The Hat Point Road is also closed due to the fire activity. Imnaha River Road, from Rippleton Creek to the Imnaha Grange is under a **Level 2 “Get Set”** evacuation. Imnaha River Road, from the town of Imnaha to Rippleton Creek and from the Imnaha Grange to the Palette Ranch including Imnaha River Woods is under a **Level 1 “Be Ready”** evacuation. There are currently no evacuations for the **Eagle Cap Wilderness Fires**.

**Closures:** There are currently trail and road closures in effect for the **Double Creek Fire** as well as the **Eagle Cap Wilderness Fires**. Closure Orders and Maps are available on the [Wallowa Whitman National Forest Fire Incident Updates page](#). Wallowa County issued an Order to restrict use by the general public of the Upper Imnaha Road from Imnaha to the junction of Upper Imnaha Road and Forest Service Road 39.

**Air Space:** Several Notice to Air Missions (NOTAMs) have been issued for areas surrounding the Double Creek and Eagle Cap Wilderness Fires. [NOTAM 2/0826](#) and [NOTAM 2/0849](#) have been issued to provide a safe environment for firefighting aircraft. Do not operate drones near wildfires. If public drones are flying in areas of wildfire activity, tactical firefighting aircraft will be grounded.

**Restrictions:** [Forest Order #06-16-00-22-04](#) covers Phase B Fire Restrictions for all National Forest System Lands within the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, except for the area within a ¼ mile of the Snake River between Hells Canyon Dam, River Mile 247.5, downstream to the Oregon-Washington border at Snake River Mile 176.0, which is regulated by Forest Order #06-16-04-22-01.

**Fire Information:**

**Office Hours:** 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM

**Phone:** 541-216-4579

**Email:** [2022.doublecreek@firenet.gov](mailto:2022.doublecreek@firenet.gov)

**Double Creek Fire InciWeb:** <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8366/>

**Double Creek Fire Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/doublecreekfire2022](http://www.facebook.com/doublecreekfire2022)

**Sturgill Fire InciWeb:** <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8364/>

**Nebo Fire InciWeb:** <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8363/>

**Goat Mountain 2 Fire InciWeb:** <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8380/>

**2022 Eagle Cap Wilderness Fires Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/eaglecapwildernessfires2022](http://www.facebook.com/eaglecapwildernessfires2022)

**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbA2Wt0syaYv4Vh4g9> Ungg

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