

## Suiattle River Fire Update – Tuesday, September 7, 2022 Incident Management Team 3 Idaho Team 1



**Discovered:** 08/30 (Suiattle River); 08/24 (Boulder); 08/25 (Toketie)

Cause: Lightning Confinement Strategy Suiattle River Fire. 47 acres Boulder Lake Fire: 617 acres Lake Toketie Fire: 457 acres Total Personnel: 78 Resources on the Fire 5 Engines 2 Crews

1 Helicopter

**Community Meeting:** Tomorrow, the Incident Management Team and involved local agencies will host a community meeting at the Darrington Community Center to provide information and updates on the Suiattle River Fire.

**Weather:** One day of cooler weather is anticipated before conditions heat up this weekend. A Fire Weather Watch will be in effect from Friday morning through Saturday evening. Low humidity and east winds are expected in the area, which has the potential to increase fire activity.

**Overview:** For the last several days fire personnel have ramped up snagging efforts (removal of dead limbs and trees to reduce fire spread potential) along the Suiattle River Road (Forest Road 26) and are making progress eastward towards Buck Creek. Two falling teams, firefighters specialized in chainsaw operations, are now working to improve the road as a potential fire confinement line. Additional heavy equipment to help improve confinement lines is expected in the coming days.

Fire personnel also scouted potential confinement options to the northwest of the Suiattle River Road and plan to improve roads in that area. Those scouting and reconnaissance efforts will continue again today. The helicopter operated for a short time yesterday, dropping water to successfully manage a 1/3-acre hot spot outside the main Suiattle River Fire perimeter, and will be available again today if needed.

**Evacuations:** The Level 1 "Be Ready" Evacuation Notice remains in place for the Lower Suiattle Valley, north of the Suiattle River.

**Closures:** As of September 7, 12:00 pm, no additional closures have been implemented, although as crews work to improve confinement lines, additional closures may be needed for safe opperations along the road. The Suiattle River Road remains closed at the 10.5 mile marker. Forest Road 25 is not closed. Buck Creek Campground and multiple trails in the area remain closed: Boulder Lake; Huckleberry Mountain; Buck Creek, Green Mountain; Downey Creek; Suiattle; Sulphur Creek; Sulphur Mountain.

Smoke: Air quality in the Darrington area remains normal. More information at: wasmoke.blogspot.com/

Fire Information Phone: 503-307-7002 Email: 2022.suiattleriver@firenet.gov

**Inciweb:** https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8396/

Closures: Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF Alerts

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