



Forest Service News Release

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Warm, dry weather spurs lightning-caused fires; Suiattle River Fire Closures on Darrington Ranger District

Everett, WA, Sept. 1, 2022— Fire managers are engaged in active suppression efforts on the Suiattle River Fire, today estimated at 5 acres. The Suiattle River Road has been closed for public safety, along with multiple recreation trailheads and a campground in the area.

The Suiattle River Fire is burning outside the Glacier Peak Wilderness on Huckleberry Mountain and has been exhibiting active fire behavior for the past few days. Yesterday a heavy helicopter provided air support. Bucket drops will continue and additional helicopter support is expected today.

The nearby Boulder Lake Fire (90 acres) and the Lake Toketie Fire (90 acres) have contributed to smoky conditions in the area. These lightning-caused fires were ignited in mid-August and are also in terrain that does not permit direct engagement by firefighters on the ground. The Toketie Lake Fire is being monitored; it has many natural barriers and does not threaten values. The Boulder Lake fire is being closely monitored and firefighters will take action to confine the fire if and when it moves into an area where it is safe to engage. A strategy to confine the Suiattle River Fire north of the 26 road has been adopted and additional resources have been ordered, including an Incident Management Team.

Evacuations: None.

Closures: The Suiattle River Road (Forest Road 26) and the Buck Creek Campground are closed. The following trails are also closed to ensure public and firefighter safety: Boulder Lake trail; Huckleberry Mountain trail; Buck Creek Trail, Green Mountain trail; Downey Creek trail; Suiattle trail; Sulphur Creek trail' Sulphur Mountain trail. This closure order is effective September 1, 2022 until rescinded: www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/mbs/alerts-notice

Smoke: Air quality may deteriorate as warm weather and active burning persists. Prepare now for smoky skies and poor air quality at: wasmoke.blogspot.com/

Fire Information Phone: 503-307-7002

Closures: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/mbs/alerts-notice>

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