



## Double Creek, Sturgill, Nebo, Goat Mountain Two Fires

September 18, 2022

Daily Update – 8:00 AM

**Highlights:** Fire activity will remain minimal through the weekend allowing firefighters to take advantage of the cooler and wetter weather. A suppression repair branch was activated today. The goal of suppression repair is to return damaged areas to a stable condition that reflects pre-fire conditions. Post-fire repair efforts include debris removal, fence and gate repair, dozer line rehab, and other damage repair related to wildland fire suppression operations.

**Double Creek Fire:** 157,185 acres | 27% contained | 740 personnel assigned

The lightning-caused Double Creek Fire is a full suppression fire, with the protection of lives and property the primary objectives. Crews scouted the northern perimeter of the fire to identify areas for suppression actions. Firefighters are planning to take advantage of the cooler and wetter weather to limit the fire's spread. Crews are continuing to monitor and mop up the west side of the fire.

### Eagle Cap Wilderness Fires

The Nebo, Sturgill, and Goat Mountain 2 Fires were lightning-caused and are being managed to protect public and private infrastructure while playing a natural role within designated Wilderness. Managing wildfire is a strategic choice to use naturally ignited fires to accomplish ecological and fuel reduction objectives. For example, certain trees require fire to germinate their seeds. Fire contributes to nutrient cycling, stimulating growth of grasses, herbs, and shrubs and creating new habitat for wildlife. Managed wildfire also reduces built-up fuels that could lead to an even bigger wildfire in the future if left unchecked.

**Nebo Fire:** 12,588 acres | 92 personnel assigned

Crews will continue mastication and chipping on the 3925 road today, cleaning up the remaining trees and brush left over from prepping that road as a fire break. That work should be completed by end of shift.

**Sturgill Fire:** 20,075 acres | 52 personnel assigned

The north end of the Sturgill Fire continues to show heat and moderate fire behavior. Work will continue on the shaded fuel break from Lostine to Bear Creek Road. The fuel break is approximately 90 percent completed with the remainder expected to be completed in the coming days. Monitoring and point protection continue around Red's Horse Ranch.

**Goat Mountain 2 Fire:** 536 acres | 0 personnel assigned

Fire activity on the Goat Mountain 2 Fire is minimal. Aircraft will continue to monitor the fire as smoke and weather permit.

**Weather:** Cooler temperatures and higher humidity should persist for the next several days. Showers and thunderstorms are possible throughout the day. Wetting rain is most likely over the Sturgill Fire with a decreased likelihood as the system moves to the Northeast. Precipitation is possible through Thursday then we move into a period of warmer and drier weather beginning on Friday.

**Evacuations:** There are no evacuation orders in place in Wallowa County.

**Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Temporary Area Closures:** The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest issued **Temporary Area Closures** for the [Double Creek Fire](#), [Nebo Fire](#), and [Sturgill and Goat Mountain 2 Fires](#). Closure Orders and Maps are available on the [Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Fire Incident Updates](#) page.

**Road Closures:** Lostine River Road at the Forest Service boundary is closed. Highway 350 going to the town of Imnaha is open. Lower Imnaha Road and Dug Bar Road are closed, Upper Imnaha Road is closed, Hat Point Road is closed, and FS 39 Road is closed from Target Springs Junction to Ollokot Campground [including the Canal Rd (3920) and Lick Creek Road (3925)].

**Airspace:** A Temporary Flight Restriction is in place for the Double Creek Fire to provide a safe environment for firefighting aircraft operations over the fire. Be aware that flight restrictions also apply to drones. Drones flying in areas of wildfire activity will cause firefighting aircraft to be grounded. Suspending air operations could decrease the effectiveness of wildfire suppression operations, allowing wildfires to grow larger and unduly threaten lives, property, and natural and cultural resources.

**Restrictions:** Fire Restrictions are in place for all National Forest System Lands within the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. All fires are prohibited except when fueled by liquid petroleum, charcoal contained in a firepan, or contained in a woodstove with a chimney and spark arresting screen. All fires need to be attended at all times, fully extinguished when not attended, and located in an area free of vegetation within three feet of the fire.

### **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/>
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/doublecreekfire2022](http://www.facebook.com/doublecreekfire2022)
- YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/Double-Creek-Fire>

### **Eagle Cap Wilderness Fires**

- 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/>
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SturgillNemoGoatMountain2Fires](http://www.facebook.com/SturgillNemoGoatMountain2Fires)
- YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/Eagle-Cap-Wilderness-Fires>

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