

# RUM CREEK FIRE UPDATE

Sunday, September 18, 9:30 A.M.

Incident Commander Jay Winfield



<b>Fire size:</b> 21,347 acres	<b>Structures lost:</b> 2 homes, 6 others	<b>Containment:</b> 83%
<b>Resources assigned:</b> 605	<b>Fire information:</b> 541-625-0849	<a href="https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8348/">https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8348/</a>
<b>Evacuations:</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/JOCOEvacMap">https://tinyurl.com/JOCOEvacMap</a>		<a href="https://www.facebook.com/rumcreekfire2022">https://www.facebook.com/rumcreekfire2022</a>

## More Recreation Opportunities Open Up Within The Rum Creek Fire Area

MERLIN, Ore. – Moderate weather contributed to no new fire growth yesterday and containment remains at 83 percent for the Rum Creek Fire. Wind gusts are expected today for upper slopes and ridges, but elsewhere the projected consecutive days of repeated moisture this weekend should facilitate continued suppression, mop up and patrol, and opportunities for rehab/repair where appropriate.

Thanks to progress made by firefighters on the Rum Creek Fire, the Bureau of Land Management Grants Pass Field Office has reopened some areas of public lands near the Rum Creek Fire. The closure area is bound to the north by the Rogue River and Lower Grave Creek Road, and to the south by Galice Road and Bear Camp Road. The western boundary extends to Township 34S Range 9 West and the eastern boundary extends to Township 34 South Range 6 West. The revised closure order and map will be posted on BLM.GOV: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/oregon-washington/fire-restrictions>.

Public and firefighter safety remain the highest priority. Before venturing out to re-opened public lands near the Rum Creek Fire, be aware that fire traffic may still be seen in the area. Please follow closures and call BLM at 541-471-6500 for additional information. Ash and dust from the fire may contain toxic and cancer-causing chemicals. Watch out for fire weakened trees and limbs that can fall without warning. Leave the area if wind picks up immediately. In wet weather, water or mud may cause landslides or flooding. Stump holes can remain hot long after the fire is out, and footing can be unstable if roots have burned out underground. Hot spots still exist within the fire perimeter.

**Evacuations:** – There are no active evacuations in Josephine County.

**Road Checkpoints:** Road blocks are located at: Galice Rd north of Almeda; Peavine East Road at Bear Camp Road; Peavine West Road at Upper Bear Camp Road; Quartz Creek Road about 3 miles up (end of County maintenance); Hog Creek Road at Galice Road; and Galice Road at the bridge by Grave Creek Boat Ramp.

**Recreation Area Openings:** The Rogue River Trail (river right) is open, as is Almeda County Park. Rocky Bar, Robert Dean, Chair, and Rand Recreation sites remain closed at this time. The Rainie Falls National Recreation Trail (on river left) remains closed. The Grave Creek boat ramp is not accessible from Galice Road. Additional recreation sites are being assessed.

**River status:** The Wild section of the Rogue River below Grave Creek is open. The Smullin Visitor Center in Rand is now open for permits, and new Wild Section permits will be issued starting on Monday. . The recreation section of the Rogue River is open to boating down to Almeda County Park. The Rand Boat Ramp is closed. Day users are recommended to take out at Almeda. Please call 541-471-6535 for more information.