

RUM CREEK FIRE UPDATE

Wednesday, September 21, 10:00 A.M.

Incident Commander Brandon Kerns

Fire size: 21,347 acres	Structures lost: 2 homes, 6 others	Containment: 87%
Resources assigned: 256	Fire information: 541-625-0849	https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8348/
Evacuations: https://tinyurl.com/JOCOEvacMap		https://www.facebook.com/rumcreekfire2022

Showers Ending, Warmer Weather Expected

MERLIN, Ore. – Scattered showers are expected to continue over the Rum Creek Fire today, however a warming and drying trend is expected heading into the weekend. Temperatures pushing 90-degrees are expected by Sunday with lower humidity levels. Containment increased to 87-percent on Tuesday.

As suppression repairs are completed, crews are transitioning to holding and improving established containment lines. Holding and improving involves patrolling lines to look for “smokes” that help identify remaining pockets of heat. In areas where pockets of heat are located, firefighters will conduct mop up operations to ensure they are extinguished within 200-feet of the fire perimeter.

Heavy equipment, road graders and excavators continue to repair roads that, at the fire’s peak, supported thousands of vehicles per day. Falling operations, which entails sawyers removing damaged trees, will continue along roads and near campgrounds to ensure public safety when those areas reopen.

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. Revised closure order and map: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/oregon-washington/fire-restrictions>.

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 permits are being issued. The recreation section of the Rogue River is open, however the Rand and Argo Boat Ramps are closed. Day users are recommended to take out at Almeda. Please call 541-471-6535 for more information.