

Double Creek, Sturgill, Nebo, Goat Mountain Two Fires

September 24, 2022 Daily Update – 8:00 AM

Highlights: Forest Service Road 39 is open to the public, as are most other roads outside of the fire closure areas. Four roads of note that remain closed are the Upper and Lower Imnaha roads and Hat Point road and Dug Bar road. All roads and trails within the fire closure areas are closed. <u>FOREST ORDER NO. 06-16-04-22-13</u> details all of the road, area and trail closures related to the Double Creek, Sturgill and Nebo fires.

Double Creek Fire: 157,704 acres | 81% contained | 575 personnel assigned

The fire grew six acres in the last twenty-four hours. The northern and southern edges of the fire are the main area of interest in that they are still producing heat and smoke. Daily reconnaissance flights are utilized to monitor both edges for increased fire activity and contingency plans are in place to deal with any flare ups. An uptick in smoke was identified yesterday in the Freezeout drainage.

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. Progress on managed fires is expressed through the accomplishment of ecological and fuel reduction objectives as opposed to progress on full suppression fires, which is expressed through containment.

Nebo Fire: 12,600 acres | 50% of management objectives achieved | 11 personnel assigned

There was no measurable growth of the fire in the last forty-eight hours. Fire suppression repair is the order of the day. Fire control lines are being covered with native vegetation and water bars are being installed where needed. These actions will prevent control lines from becoming erosion channels. Crews will continue to monitor for any hot spots and mop them up when discovered.

Sturgill Fire: 20,192 acres | 53% of management objectives achieved | 47 personnel assigned

There was no measurable growth of the fire in the last forty-eight hours. Log trucks continue hauling trees to staging areas where they will be sold and then processed into wood products. Excavators and masticators are chipping brush and debris along several roads outside of the wilderness. Those chips then play a vital role in recycling nutrients back into the soil. Pumps, hoses, and other equipment are being transported by trucks back to Joseph for rehab.

Goat Mountain 2 Fire: 536 acres | 0 personnel assigned

The Goat Mountain 2 Fire exhibited zero growth in the last twenty-four hours. Aircraft will continue to monitor the fire as smoke and weather permit.

Weather: Temperatures should reach the high 70s and into the 80s in the valleys and on the north end of the Double Creek fire. Relative humidity only recovered to about 40% over nigh and will drop to about 20% today. A warming trend is expected through Tuesday.

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: Forest Service Road (FSR) 8250 east to the junction with FSR 8250-040, FSR 3900-100, and FSR 3900-200 remain closed. All forest service roads within the new area closure boundaries are closed. Wallowa County Road 727 remains open.

Restrictions: Fire Restrictions are in place for all National Forest System Lands within the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Campfires should be in fire pits surrounded by dirt, rock, or commercial rings and in areas not conducive to rapid fire spread. All flammable material shall be cleared within a 3-foot radius from the edge of the pit and free of overhanging material. Use existing pits wherever possible. All fires need to be attended at all times and fully extinguished when not attended.

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.

Fire Information

Office Hours: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM Phone: 541-216-4579 Email: 2022.doublecreek@firenet.gov

Double Creek Fire

- InciWeb: <u>https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8366/</u>
- Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/doublecreekfire2022</u>
- YouTube: <u>https://tinyurl.com/Double-Creek-Fire</u>

Eagle Cap Wilderness Fires

- Sturgill Fire InciWeb: <u>https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8364/</u>
- Nebo Fire InciWeb: <u>https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8363/</u>
- Goat Mountain 2 Fire InciWeb: <u>https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8380/</u>
- Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/SturgillNemoGoatMountain2Fires</u>
- YouTube: <u>https://tinyurl.com/Eagle-Cap-Wilderness-Fires</u>

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