

## **Cowlitz Complex Fire Update**

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InciWeb: <u>https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/wagpf-cowlitz-complex</u> Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/GiffordPinchot</u> Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/GPNF</u>

September 28, 2023

## **Cowlitz Complex Continues Winding Down**

(RANDLE, Wash.) – The Cowlitz Complex is 39% contained with a total of 731 acres burned.

There are currently 122 resources assigned to the Cowlitz Complex. With the recent weather changes, the fires have little to no activity. Crews are still monitoring all of the fires while they continue the suppression repair work. The Type 3 Incident Management Team is preparing to turn the fire over to a small Type 4 team that will continue the great work repairing the fire area and monitoring any smoke or fire activity.

**Weather:** After a brief lull in the rain, additional showers will move into the Cowlitz Complex during the daytime hours Thursday as a reinforcing upper-level trough of low pressure digs into the region. The chance of measurable rainfall is 90 percent during the day Thursday, lowering in the evening. Relative humidity values will remain above 70 percent. Temperatures during the day will again be in the 50s for most locations. Lighter winds will take hold, out of the west 2-5 mph for much of the area with some gusts nearing 14 mph over the exposed ridges. Additional rainfall during the day Thursday through Thursday night will be 0.20-0.50 inches

**Safety Message:** While the fires are winding down, it's easy to become complacent. We get comfortable in our daily drive, or our daily job duties and forget that hazards are still out there and firefighters are still working in the area Today, please pause to be aware of hazards that you may present if you encounter firefighting equipment during your daily routine.

**Background:** There were 30 fires in the complex. The fires started August 25<sup>th</sup> after a lightning event across the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Most have been contained and are in patrol or monitor status as suppression repair continues.

**Closures:** Due to ongoing fire activities, the following roads and trails are closed to the public to help ensure public and firefighter safety: Forest Roads 25, 9300 and 9341, Boundary Trail #1 (from Elk Pass to intersection with Summit Prairie), Summit Prairie #2, Craggy Peak #3, Snagtooth #4, Quartz #5, Stabler Camp 17, Wright Meadows #80, Basin Camp #3A, Quartz #5B (French Creek), Snyder Pasture #80A.

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