



# FIRE UPDATE



BATTLE MOUNTAIN COMPLEX  
Update: August 6, 2024

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## **Firefighters continue mop-up, containment at 39%**

UKIAH, Ore. – Overnight, firefighters pushed containment to 39% as they continued to extinguish lingering hot spots and increasing mop-up depth. Today, crews will continue mop-up operations around the entire perimeter of the fire. Firefighters will pay special attention to the duff, the dense layer of pine needles that accumulates in the understory, under Juniper trees and limb them up to ensure that no fire smolders and climbs branches later in the summer.

Firefighters will continue securing the area between Ditch Creek and the Potamus drainage as they bring the fire to control features along the ridgetops where it's flatter and more defensible. Late in the evening and overnight, with the cooler temperatures, crews will burn the light vegetation to those firelines at a low intensity to remove the grass and brush but leave trees intact. Crews will also continue building contingencies and a shaded fuel break north of that area as an additional safeguard for homes and natural resources.

Crews will also continue suppression repair work along lines considered fully contained, especially along the east and southeast. Suppression repair work consists of burying firelines, knocking down berms built by bulldozers and using waterbars diverting runoff to minimize potential soil erosion and environmental impacts. Crews will also remove hazardous, standing dead timber near firelines and roads.

Residents should continue to expect to see smoke in the interior and the unburnt island within the fire perimeter as unburnt vegetation burns well within the fire's footprint. Crews will continue to patrol the fire perimeter throughout the summer to check fire behavior and ensure the fire doesn't escape.

Oregon Department of Forestry's Incident Management Team 3 will be passing the baton to Southwest Complex Incident Management Team 3 tomorrow. The entire team would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to the Ukiah, Dale, Ritter, Long Creek, Monument and Heppner communities for their unwavering support during this challenging incident. It has been an honor to serve.

- MORE -

## **FIRE AT A GLANCE**

Total Estimated Complex Size:  
181,941 acres  
Monkey Creek Fire: 177,457 acres  
North Fork Owens: 4,484 acres  
Total Containment 39%  
Cause: Under Investigation  
Estimated Cost: \$51,180,190

### **County Evacuations**

Umatilla: [Alerts](#) [Facebook](#)  
Grant: [Alerts](#) [RAPTOR GIS](#)  
Morrow: [RAPTOR GIS](#)

### **Road Closures**

For road closures, visit:  
<https://www.tripcheck.com>

### **Public Land Closures**

See page 2 for closures.

### **Fire Restrictions**

[www.bmidc.org](http://www.bmidc.org)

### **All Resources**

|                  |       |
|------------------|-------|
| Hand Crews:      | 57    |
| Engines:         | 74    |
| Water Tenders:   | 38    |
| Dozers:          | 22    |
| Helicopters:     | 9     |
| Total Personnel: | 1,805 |

### **Incident Commander:**

Tyler McCarty  
Incident Management Team 3

**Evacuations:** Learn more about current evacuation levels at:

- For Umatilla County, follow [www.facebook.com/UmatillaCountySheriff](https://www.facebook.com/UmatillaCountySheriff) or sign up for Umatilla County Emergency Alert System at <https://member.everbridge.net/index/2590041373147145>.
- For Grant County, visit the [RAPTOR arcgis](https://www.arcgis.com/apps/arcgis/) site or sign up for alerts at: <https://member.everbridge.net/index/825462649520134>.
- For Morrow County, visit <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/de78333b0d2544f7a320142174aa20ae>

**Public Land Closures:**

The Bureau of Land Management has closed public lands along the John Day River from Kimberly to Dale, and from Kimberly to Service Creek. More information here: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/oregon-washington/fire-restrictions>.

The Umatilla National Forest has implemented a closure for public lands within the Heppner Ranger District and the North Fork John Day Ranger District. More information at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/umatilla/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD1194462> and <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/umatilla/alerts-notice/?cid=stelprdb5286768>.