

Southwest Area Incident Management Team

TEAM 1 – CARL SCHWOPE – INCIDENT COMMANDER

Warner Peak Fire Update Daily Update August 12, 2024

Acres: 52,650 Location: Lake County, OR Containment: 4% Start Date: 08/05/24 Personnel: 405

Highlights: Air and ground resources are being used to reinforce fire lines on both sides of the Warner Peak Fire. Warm, dry weather and particularly susceptible fuels promote fast fire spread. Steep and mountainous terrain in some parts of the Refuge makes access and travel extremely difficult for firefighters. Active fire behavior is predicted while the fuels are dry, and temperatures are elevated. Firefighters are working to minimize damage to wildlife habitats, natural resources, and cultural heritage sites within the affected area.

Fire Activity: Crews have continued to make significant progress securing the eastern area of the fire, constructing line utilizing natural and manmade features such as roads and rocky outcrops. Initial containment along the eastern side of the fire will enable firefighters to continue safely and effectively engaging along the southern and western fire edge. These operations will continue through the night shift when fire intensity is lower, removing fuels ahead of the wildfire to create more secure and defensible fire control lines.

Fire behavior will remain very active along the southwestern portion of the fire as it moves into receptive fuels, pushed by winds out of the west. Air resources have been engaged to support crews on the ground and will be used where appropriate as the weather permits. Crews will work to secure lines and cool hot spots near the line and be ready to extinguish any spot fires. A UAS (Unmanned Aircraft System) with IR sensors is being used to map the fire perimeter.

Mop up and patrol operations continue across the complex.

Closures: The Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge is closed for public and firefighter safety. The Incident Management Team is working in coordination with local emergency management to evaluate any potential need for closures or evacuations in the fire area.

Weather: Temperatures remain in the mid-80s with humidities down to 14%. West to northwest winds will be brisk 15 mph with gusts of up to 25 mph. These conditions are expected to continue over the next several days.

Smoke: Wildfire smoke from the Warner Peak Fire may impact the community of Plush. Go to <u>fire.airnow.gov/</u> to see the latest smoke conditions in your community.

More Information: Information Phone Line: 541.208.1770 Email: <u>2024.warnerpeak@firenet.gov</u> Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61563957367189</u> Inciweb: <u>https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/orshr-warner-peak</u>