



# RAIL RIDGE FIRE

## September 10, 2024 Morning Update

### Rail Ridge Quick Facts

<b>Acres:</b> 157,759	<b>Crews:</b> 11
<b>Containment:</b> 11%	<b>Engines:</b> 132
<b>Detection Date:</b> Sept 2, 2024	<b>Dozers:</b> 28
<b>Cause:</b> Lightning	<b>Aircraft:</b> available as needed/as air clears
<b>Total resources:</b> 975	

### Contact us

**Phone:** 541-208-7111

**Email:** [2024.railridge@firenet.gov](mailto:2024.railridge@firenet.gov)

**Facebook:** [Rail Ridge Fire - Oregon 2024](#)

**Inciweb:** <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/orocf-rail-ridge>

**LinkTree:** <https://linktr.ee/RailRidgeFire>

### Closures and Evacuations

**Closures:** Both the Ochoco National Forest and BLM have implemented partial closures due to the fire. For more details and closure maps, visit the [Ochoco National Forest](#), [Malheur National Forest](#), and [BLM webpages](#).

**Evacuations:** For the most up-to-date evacuation information, please visit:

- **Crook County:** Crook County Emergency Management [website](#) and Crook County Sheriff's Office [Facebook page](#).
- **Wheeler County:** Visit the Wheeler County Sheriff's Office [Facebook page](#) for real-time updates.
- **Grant County:** Grant County Emergency Management [Facebook page](#).

Evacuation shelter: Mt. Vernon Community Hall, 640 S. Ingle Street, Mt. Vernon

Large animals: Grant County Fairgrounds, 411 NW Bridge St, John Day, OR 97845

## **Operational Update**

Fire behavior was moderate through the morning and early afternoon yesterday, allowing opportunities for firefighters to reevaluate and improve upon preparation work completed earlier this week.

Favorable winds gave crews a hand overnight with fire approaching Dayville. The fire continued to move slowly toward town with no high-intensity fire observed and no containment issues noted. Mapping this morning shows the fire about 1.5 miles from town moving gently into containment lines. In the late afternoon, fire activity increased and became visible along ridgetops behind Dayville. Continuing to catch that fire as it moves to the northeast remains the priority for today.

Yesterday, task forces from Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) were strategically positioned at structures in the Dayville, Fields Creek, and Suplee areas. Crews also completed damage assessments on structures that were impacted by fire earlier in the week. The number of destroyed structures did not change.

OSFM crews will continue to assess and reinforce structural protection measures at structures near the fire line, including in Dayville, Suplee, Fields Creek, Battle Creek, and the Morgan Mountain area. Multiple task forces are in place, committed to structural protection around the clock.

Crews are aggressively working in the South Fork, in Division Golf and Division Juliet. Erratic gusty winds have been noted for several days in the South Fork of the John Day River, and spotting continues to occur. Due to the steep, inaccessible terrain, crews have had a difficult time getting to the spots to contain them, and they are looking at opportunities to stop fire progression towards the Morgan Ranch area.

To the south along the Paulina/Suplee Road, the fire continues to back into containment lines with no issues. The western edge of the fire has also been quiet for the last several days, and firefighters have seen very little movement.

## **Weather**

Cooler, wetter weather is anticipated to move into the fire area today, and crews are poised to take advantage of these conditions to continue to build containment. A return to drier weather is anticipated for Friday, although temperatures should remain cool.

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