Diamond Complex Incident Update

Saturday, September 21, 2024



Phone: 541-375-0367, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Email: 2024.DiamondComplex@firenet.gov

Fire Information: linktr.ee/diamond complex middle fork





Size: 11,141 acres Containment: 90% Personnel: 316

Resources: 7 crews | 1 helicopter | 6 engines | 4 dozers | 12 water tenders | 2 masticators | 9 excavators

Current Situation: The warming and drying trend continues to bring sunny skies and increased temperatures throughout the fire area. The favorable weather conditions have allowed personnel to continue making progress toward completing fire-suppression repair tasks across the Diamond Complex. While fire-suppression repair remains the incident priority, personnel and equipment are also poised to ensure all fires stay within containment lines and stand ready to respond to any new fires within the Umpqua National Forest.

On Friday, several reconnaissance fights were conducted to survey the fires within the Diamond Complex for any sources of smoke, heat, or areas of concern. Only a few pockets of heat and single smoldering trees were located. A helicopter was utilized for several water-dropping missions to extinguish a few stubborn hotspots on the Potter Fire that have resurfaced with the increase in temperatures and lower humidity.

Every shift, crews and equipment get their assignments and drive to their various divisions across the Diamond Complex. These personnel have become intimately involved with the sections of the fire they have been assigned to. Over the past several weeks, many of them have transitioned from fire attack to fire-suppression repair operations where they must now return the forest to as much of a normal state as practical. Firefighters will continue repairing handlines by pulling back the removed material onto the line as well as building water bars to assist with erosion control. Dozer-constructed lines will continue to be repaired by heavy-equipment, like excavators, by placing the removed natural vegetation back onto the lines to protect the soil and make it easier for the ground to recover. Crews will continue hauling and chipping slash material from hazard tree removal operations. Road grading operations continue on the forest roads that have been damaged by firefighting equipment and heavy machinery throughout the incident. Along the southern edge of the Potter Fire, the operation of laying and grading several hundred yards of gravel on the 100 Road has been completed. As personnel complete identified suppression-repair items, resource advisors are approving each project to verify it has met the Forest's repair standards.

The Diamond Complex includes 33 fires in the Umpqua National Forest, 31 of which are 100% contained. The remaining two fires that are not fully contained are the Pine Bench Fire (3,976 acres, 68% contained) and the Potter Fire (3,428 acres, 78% contained).

Forest Closure: Umpqua National Forest lands, roads, and trails around the Diamond Complex fires are temporarily closed (with several exemptions) under <u>Forest Order 06-15-24-07</u>. You are responsible for knowing where you are in relation to the closed areas, so be prepared and view the order and map prior to recreating on your public lands.

Fire Restrictions: As of Friday, September 20, 2024, the Umpqua National Forest has terminated <u>Public Use</u> <u>Restrictions (PURs)</u> and has decreased to Moderate Fire Danger across all districts. Beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, September 23, 2024, the forest will move to <u>Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL)</u> 1.