

# Douglas Complex Fire Update

Oregon Department of Forestry Team 2- Dennis Sifford, Incident Commander  
Oregon State Fire Marshal Office Green Team – John Ingrao, Incident Commander  
Phone Numbers: 541-832-0136; 541-832-0137  
Douglas County Information Number: 888-459-3830  
Hours of operation: 8:00 am – 9:00 pm



**August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013**  
**9:00 am**

## Special Message:

Evacuations are still in effect for Reuben Road, Mt. Reuben Road and McCullough Creek Road in Douglas County. Josephine County is also continuing evacuations for Poorman Creek, Lower Graves Creek Road, Grave Creek Road, and Lower Wolf Creek.

**Current Situation:** The Douglas Complex currently consists of Milo, on the east side of Interstate 5; Rabbit Mountain, on the west side of Interstate 5, northwest of Glendale, Dad's Creek, west of Glendale, and the Farmer's Fire south of Glendale. The Oregon Military Department and the Oregon Office of Emergency Management are assisting with response to the Douglas Complex. The Oregon Army National Guard is providing aviation assets at the request of the Oregon Department of Forestry. Five aircraft are prepared to help with fire suppression including three HH-60M Blackhawk helicopters, one CH-47 Chinook helicopter, and one UH-72 Lakota. Approximately 125 Soldiers along with 26 High Mobility Multi Wheeled Vehicles are also slated to be called-up on State Active Duty within the next 72 hours to assist with traffic control in the evacuated areas.

### Milo

Milo Branch is a group of smaller fires, all less than 20 acres in size. Firefighters are patrolling these fires today. No further control problems are expected on these fires.

### Rabbit Mountain

Near Middle Creek, firefighters continue to make progress on line construction as well as setting up hoses and water for use in extinguishing heat along the fire line. The containment line held yesterday with some mop up started.

### Dad's Creek

The south end of the fire continues to burn actively near Grave Creek. Structural engines worked with hand crews to contain the spread of fire on the West end of Grave Creek road. Overnight, firefighters working in the Cow Creek Road area made good progress. Crews have been working to scout the areas on lower Wolf Creek to Grave Creek to provide structure protection needs. The structure protection task forces assigned to that division reported good results with continued active fire behavior.

In Josephine County, overhead personnel spent a large part of the day accessing the area and reported challenging terrain, limited access, and active fire conditions. Approximately 30 homes are being threatened in the Grave Creek, Poorman Creek, and Lower Wolf Creek areas. Firefighters contained a spotfire that crossed Lower Grave Creek Road yesterday afternoon. Today, they will be removing any vegetation that may be considered a fire hazard around structures in Poorman Creek.

The fire is expected to burn actively again in the afternoon when winds start to affect fire movement. Areas around Glendale will see less smoke in the area today due to the change of wind direction from the northwest.

**Weather:** The red flag warning was lifted yesterday with the lightning staying to the east. Today, a cooler marine weather pattern is expected to move into the area. Temperatures will be lower and humidity a little higher. Winds will pick up in the afternoon, coming from the west and rotating northwest with gusts up to 20 miles per hour. A drying trend is forecasted for the weekend.

**Evacuations and Closures:**

- Cow Creek Road from Riddle into the fire area and from Glendale into the fire has been closed. The public is asked to honor the road blocks and not interfere with firefighters working in the area.
- Evacuations have been ordered for McCullough Creek Road, Reuben Road, and Mt. Reuben Road in Douglas County, and Poorman Creek Road, Lower Grave Creek, Grave Creek, and Lower Wolf Creek in Josephine County.
- Residences in the area are still considered threatened. This means evacuations could be necessary at some point in the future. Any official evacuation orders would be issued by the Douglas County or Josephine County Sheriff's Offices.

**Fire Information Meetings:** A public meeting is planned in Wolf Creek tonight at 6:00 pm at the Wolf Creek County Park. This is a change from the original planned location due to the capacity of the community center.

**Public Safety/Prevention:** Firefighters are contending with hazards, like falling boulders and trees, and old mine shafts, which are affecting access into some of the fire area. Values at risk include homes, commercial timberland, and critical wildlife habitat. There are no reports of homes burned. Two minor injuries have been reported. Two outbuildings have burned. To address any concern as a result of smoke in the area, an air quality sensor has been installed in Glendale. Go to [www.oregonsmoke.blogspot.com](http://www.oregonsmoke.blogspot.com) to track air quality measurements.

Douglas Forest Protective Association has increased prevention restrictions to IFPL 3, where a 1 p.m. shutdown is in effect. Public restrictions are also in place. Check [www.dfpa.net](http://www.dfpa.net) before commencing your activities.

**Fire Statistics:**

**Location:** 7 miles north of Glendale, OR

**Complex Size:** 28,496 acres

**Start Date:** 7/26/13

**Percent Contained:** 7%

**Cause:** Lightning

**Total Personnel:** 1,645

**Resources Include:** 52 Type 2 hand crews, 78 engines, 18 dozers, 19 water tenders, and overhead personnel, National Guard and State Fire Marshal Office resources

**Air Resources:** 3 Type 1 helicopters, 6 Type 2 helicopters, and 2 Type 3 helicopters (does not include the 5 National Guard helicopters)

**Places to get information:**

Douglas Forest Protective Association - [www.dfpa.net](http://www.dfpa.net)

Twitter - [www.twitter.com/DouglasFPA](http://www.twitter.com/DouglasFPA)

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/DouglasForestProtectiveAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/DouglasForestProtectiveAssociation)

InciWeb - <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3559/>

ODF PIO Blog - <http://wildfireoregondeptofforestry.blogspot.com/>.

ODF Southwest Oregon District - [www.swofire.com](http://www.swofire.com)

American Red Cross - [www.redcross.org/nss](http://www.redcross.org/nss)

Air Quality – [www.oregonblogspot.com](http://www.oregonblogspot.com)

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