

OTTER CREEK FIRE

Umatilla National Forest

FIRE UPDATE

Rob Batten, Incident Commander
Blue Mountain Fire Interagency Team
IMT-II

August 19, 2007, 8:00 a.m.

Additional information available at www.inciweb.org

Or call 541- 421-3073

For Immediate Release

The Otter Creek Fire located in the North Fork John Day River canyon in the Umatilla National Forest and is burning in fairly steep, remote country. Fire behavior was extreme yesterday particularly the east flank, spotting in several locations. Oregon Dept. of Forestry has assisted with night shift taking advantage of cooler temperatures and establishing a dozer line on the southwest flank, north of Kelsay Creek. A second fire east of Otter Creek fire was active and burned into Otter Creek yesterday.

The weather forecast calls for cooler temperatures with a chance of wetting rain through today. Winds will increase late afternoon.

The Blue Mountain Interagency Incident Management Team will direct all assembled resources to meet the challenges posed by the Otter Creek Fire, provide for firefighter and public safety, protect fisheries and other natural resources, and minimize costs.

Location: 10 miles east of Ukiah, OR

Start Date: 08/15/07

Cause: Lightning

Approx. Size: 3,048 acres

Assigned Resources: 1-Type I crews, 13-Type 2 crews, 3-Type 2, 2-Type 3 Helicopter,
20-Engines, 6-Dozers, 8-Water tenders, 3-Camp Crews, 61-Overhead

Containment: 0%

Total Personnel: 448

Agencies Represented: USFS, and Oregon Dept. of Forestry, Oregon Dept. of Transportation, Grant County and Oregon Dept of Corrections.

Due to extremely fire conditions, Public Use restrictions remain in effect and a complete campfire ban has been imposed on the following State and federal lands in NE Oregon and SE Washington: Umatilla NF, Malheur NF, Wallowa-Whitman, BLM lands in Burns BLM District and Oregon State Parks in the NE Oregon ODF Protection area.

An area closure has been put effect over the fire area. Please visit the Umatilla National Forest web site at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma/> or the inciwebweb site at: <http://www.inciweb.org/>for the latest closures, information, maps and photos.