



BIFZ

Burns Interagency Fire Zone



28910 Hwy 20 West
 Hines, Oregon 97738
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Wildfire Season Remains Active in Harney County

BURNS, Oregon – More than 2,300 lightning strikes detected in Harney County over the weekend have caused at least 26 wildfires since Saturday. The most recent of those incidents is a 400-acre fire near Blackrock, approximately 20 miles northeast of Burns in Silvies Valley. The Blackrock Fire was discovered around 1:20 p.m. yesterday and showed steady activity and some rapid growth throughout the afternoon and into the evening. With occasional wind gusts and continuous fuel of juniper, sagebrush, and grass, the fire spread south and east directly toward Blackrock. Resources threatened at the time included private land, some primary and secondary residences, historic structures, Calamity Butte Lookout, and significant redband trout habitat.

Fire crews, engines, dozers, and air support responded to the incident with some success before the end of the night. Structure protection was put in place and no structures were lost, dozers made great progress around portions of the northern flank of the fire, and air tankers left a retardant line along most of the south flank. The fire is estimated at 20 percent contained and all fire lines are holding at this time. Today resources plan to work toward securing the eastern perimeter of the fire as conditions allow. The High Desert Type 3 Team has been assigned and will be taking over management of the incident later this morning. Fire base camp will be set up at Crow Flat Guard Station. Travelers in that area can expect congestion and should drive with caution.

Another incident, located approximately 2 miles west of Juniper Lake, was also discovered yesterday afternoon. The Juniper Lake Fire, burning mostly in mahogany and in very steep and rocky terrain, was estimated at approximately 2 to 3 acres in size and showing very little growth.

Most other recent fires in Harney County caused by weekend thunderstorms have been contained. Those include the Diamond Craters Fire at 4,543 acres, Jack Mountain Fire at 1,400 acres, Steens Mountain Wilderness Fire at 160 acres, Colony Creek Fire at 297 acres, and the Stonehouse Fire at 75 acres.

Fire danger is rated **VERY HIGH** and the Industrial Fire Precaution Level is at a level 3. A regulated fire closure and public use restrictions for all public lands within the Burns Interagency Fire Zone are in effect.

For more information on current fire activity or public use restrictions, call (541) 573-4519. For 24-hour recorded information, call (541) 573-4555.

