

Hood River County Sheriff's Office Joint Information Center

**Daily Update
September 13, 2017**

Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/5584>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EagleCreekandIndianCreekFires2017>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/eaglecreekfire>

Oregon Smoke Information: <https://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com>

Multnomah County Sheriff Flash Alert: <https://www.flashalert.net/id/MCSO>

Hood River County Sheriff: <http://www.hoodriversheriff.com/news/breaking-news>

Road Closures: <https://tripcheck.com>

Firewise Information: <http://www.firewise.org>

The daily update is intended to provide a summary of public agency response operations addressing the Eagle Creek Fire.

Eagle Creek Fire (via Fire Information Center as of 9/13 at 8:00 a.m.):

The fire is approximately 36,636 acres and is 13 percent contained. The fire remains within established contingency planning lines and firefighters will continue to attack the fire by air as weather permits to slow its spread. Warmer, dry winds picked up yesterday evening, increasing fire behavior. On the northeast corner, the fire crossed Herman Creek into the Camp Creek drainage about two to three miles south of Interstate 84 (I-84). The fire ran approximately three miles to Nick Eaton Ridge with some spots toward Gordon Creek.

Crews are also establishing and strengthening contingency lines along the power line corridor east of Cascade Locks to Shellrock Mountain and from Mitchell Point to Wahtum Lake. These measures are in place to protect communities and the I-84 corridor. On the eastern end where the fire crossed Herman Creek, planners anticipate continued active fire behavior, though cooler temperatures and higher humidity predicted for the remainder of the week should help slow its spread.

Continued moderate to active fire behavior on the southeast corner will produce more smoke through the day. Residents can expect to see smoke from these actively burning areas within the fire's perimeter.

Evacuation Levels (via Hood River County Sheriff's Office as of 9/13 at 12:00 p.m.):

The Cascade Locks area level 3 notices are being rolled back to level 2. This means that all of the Cascade Locks area is now at level 2. The Sheriff's Office would like to caution those returning to their homes that they should still be ready to evacuate at a moment's notice.

Evacuation zone A4a has been upgraded to level 3, meaning residents should evacuate immediately. This zone runs along the I-84 corridor, from exit 47 and exit 56. This evacuation generally covers the Wyeth/Herman Creek Road area, including the tribal fishing in-lieu site.

Evacuation zone A4b has been upgraded to level 2, meaning residents should be ready to evacuate at a moment's notice. This zone includes all residences west of Country Club Road from Frankton Road to York Hill Road, and all residences on the north and west side of York Hill Road. All residences on I-84 from mile post 57 to mile post 61, including Morton Road and Mitchell Point Road, are also included in the level 2 A4b zone.

The most up-to-date interactive evacuation map can be found at: www.arcg.is/2eO59cm

Weather (via National Weather Service Portland as of 9/13 at 8:52 a.m.):

A weak mid level low pressure will develop across the area late tonight and Thursday morning. This could result in a few light showers across our southeastern half of the county late tonight and Thursday morning, but confidence in this occurring is low at this point. Otherwise, additional weak upper level troughs will slide across the area through Saturday, keeping temperatures generally near seasonal averages with little in the way of precipitation. A change to cooler and wetter weather still looks on track for the extended forecast, which should help firefighters continue to make gains.

Highway & Road Closures (via Oregon Department of Transportation as of 9/13):

ODOT is working closely with fire officials to determine when westbound lanes of I-84 can reopen. Eastbound I-84 will remain closed at least another week– the minimum time required to complete rock removal. The Historic Columbia River Highway remains closed with no schedule to reopen.

(via Port of Hood River at 9/12) The Hood River Interstate Bridge is open and operating as normal. Fire and emergency response vehicles, school buses, and residents of Cascade Locks will have tolls waived until further notice. The Port urges bridge users to expect significant delays while I-84 remains closed and SR-14 remains restricted. Bridge users are reminded that the speed limit on the bridge is 25 MPH and only 5 MPH through the toll plaza.

Shelters (via Red Cross Cascades Region as of 9/12):

As of Tuesday, approximately 148 people have sought refuge at the Red Cross Shelter at the Skamania County Fairgrounds. Twenty-four people slept inside the shelter and another 124 stayed in RVs in the parking lot and ate meals, used shower facilities, etc. Red Cross has served 245 meals. Other shelters are also available in the area. Individuals seeking shelter for themselves or their animals due to evacuations in Hood River County should call 541-387-6911 (English) or 541-387-7080 (Spanish)."

Public Health & Hospitals (via Hood River County Public Health as of 9/13):

Smoke and air quality conditions in the Hood River area depend on weather and wildfire activity. The best protection is to avoid smoke altogether by staying inside, with windows and doors closed. Residents can view current air quality conditions at www.deq.state.or.us/ajq. The index also offers guidance on what precautions various groups should take depending on air quality.

Food stored in refrigerators, coolers, and freezers may have gone bad, even if it smells and looks good (like meat, dairy cooked foods/leftovers). Discard any food that has spoiled or that was prepared seven days or more prior, even if the temperature remained at 41°F. Be safe: "If in Doubt, Throw it Out!"

Schools (via Hood River County School District as of 9/13 at 3:00 p.m.):

All Hood River County School District schools are operating on their normal schedule. Cascade Locks Elementary students continue to attend school at Westside Elementary, with transportation being provided from Skamania Fairgrounds. Refer to the school or district webpage for bus times. The district will make decisions about repopulating Cascade Locks Elementary School on a week-by-week basis. The school district sent notification to families that reside in the A4a and A4b evacuation zones. The schools operated on a regular schedule for the rest of the school day while also working to ensure that students living in the affected areas were safely reunified with their families. As the air conditions fluctuate across the valley, decisions regarding outdoor activities like recess and athletics will be made in consultation with the Health Department and visual inspection. Upgrades to air filtration systems are being made.

Recreation (via U.S. Forest Service as of 9/13 at 3:00 pm):

Due to fire fighting efforts and fire danger, all Mount Hood National Forest lands west of Highway 35 and north of Mount Hood remain closed.

(via Hood River County): Due to fire fighting operations, all Hood River County forest land is closed to the public.

Volunteer & Donation Information (via Oregon Office of Emergency Management):

The urge to help at this critical time is strong. While the generous outpouring of support from the public is appreciated, please do not send physical goods before confirming the need with a relief agency. Financial support to voluntary agencies responding to disasters is the most effective way to help people impacted by Oregon's wildfires. For donation and volunteer information, call 541-387-6911 (English) or 541-387-7080 (Spanish)."

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