



Brian Gales, Incident Commander, NWIMT13

Start date: July 12, 2021	Location: Linn County, 9 miles south of Detroit on the Sweet Home Ranger District	Cause: Under investigation
Fire size: 156 acres	Air Assets Assigned: 1	Total personnel: 207

Bruler Fire Update for Friday, July 16, 2021

Sweet Home, Ore. – Firefighters took advantage of cooler temperatures and higher humidity to complete additional direct and indirect line around the Bruler Fire yesterday. Additional resources arrived on the fire, allowing firefighters to identify and mop up a spot fire that occurred to the northeast of the established fire perimeter. The spot fire has been completely lined and cold trailed, which greatly reduces the likelihood of future spread from this location. The dense tree canopy can make it difficult to detect hot spots without firefighters on the ground near the fire watching for smoke. A helicopter is assigned to the Bruler Fire, ready to respond to hot spots and new starts within the fire area.

The Bruler Fire is estimated to be 156 acres with the addition of the spot fire and more accurate mapping. Today, firefighters will take advantage of moderate weather conditions to mop up and cold trail around the fire. Mop up includes using hoses to add water to remove heat from burned areas. Cold trailing is a time-consuming process that verifies the ground is cold to the touch. This labor-intensive job involves walking the entire fire perimeter and feeling the ground for hot spots and embers. Fallers will also remove hazard trees and snags to reduce the probability of fire spread beyond the established perimeter, and to increase safety from them falling.

Such a large closure area is necessary to ensure that firefighters can focus on managing the fire and not needing to evacuate visitors should conditions on the fire change rapidly. We appreciate the support of the public in allowing us to stay focused on firefighting and we will reduce the closure area as soon as we can. “While we are making great progress, the fire is not contained,” said Agency Administrator Nikki Swanson.

“I’m pleased that the firefighters were able to take advantage of cooler weather and higher humidity to quickly respond to the spot fire yesterday,” said Incident Commander Brian Gales. “Firefighters are ready to quickly respond to any new activities that occur in the area.”

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR: Today, the weather will again be cooler, with a marine layer increasing relative humidity and clouds. Winds are forecast to be light, with gusts up to 10 mph on ridge tops. Temperatures are expected to stay cooler through the weekend until a high pressure system arrives early next week, which will bring warmer temperatures.

SMOKE: Air quality in and around the communities of Detroit and Sweet Home continues to be listed as “good”. Light winds from the west are keeping smoke from the Bruler Fire and surrounding larger fires to the east.

CLOSURES: A large closure area has been established to maintain firefighter and public safety. This closure encompasses large portions of Forest Service lands south of Detroit Lake, west of Highway 22 and north of Highway 20. The closure also includes the Middle Santiam Wilderness, Daly Lake, Tule Lake and the trail network known as the Old Cascade Crest trail system. The closure is posted to the Willamette National Forest webpage.. A Bureau of Land Management (BLM) closure area is also in place for lands along the Quartzville Scenic Byway/Quartzville road including Yellowbottom Campground, Old Miner’s Meadow Group Site, and nearby dispersed camping areas. Visit InciWeb for more information about closures in the area

<p>Public information: Facebook: facebook.com/brulerfire2021 E-mail: 2021.bruler@firenet.gov Phone: 541-223-9601, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.</p>	<p>Inciweb https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7663/ Oregon Smoke Blog http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/p/air-quality-now.html</p>
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