



Brian Gales, Incident Commander, NWIMT13

<b>Start date: July 12, 2021</b>	<b>Location: Linn County, 9 miles south of Detroit on the Sweet Home Ranger District</b>	<b>Cause: Under investigation</b>
<b>Fire size: 195 acres</b>	<b>Air Assets Assigned: 1</b>	<b>Total personnel: 253</b>

### Bruler Fire Update for Wednesday, July 21, 2021

**Sweet Home, Ore.** – Work on the Bruler Fire continued yesterday to keep the fire perimeter as small as possible. Firefighters continued to use hose and sprinklers to increase containment on the fire. The increase in acreage is due to continued backing of the fire on the west flank towards indirect line and more accurate mapping from an IR flight last night. The fire remains within the previously established direct and indirect lines. Containment is listed at 12%.

Confidence builds daily as we continue to get tighter control lines and begin to mop up in high complexity topography and old growth trees. Dedicated mop up and continued tightening of line while establishing key alternate lines for the foreseeable future is critical. Due to the rugged terrain, deep duff layer and large old trees, this fire will be on the landscape until we receive significant rain. Taking the energy out of the fire area is critical to our success and remains our highest priority.

Firefighters use one of two main strategies to attack ground fires – indirect and direct. Indirect line is created at a safe distance away from the advancing fire. Firefighters on the Bruler Fire initially used the indirect line strategy to engage the fire. Direct line is created at the edge of the advancing fire. Today, firefighters are moving to use the direct line strategy around the perimeter of the fire as hazards are mitigated. Direct line increases the probability of keeping the Bruler Fire within its current footprint.

“We are taking advantage of the moderated weather conditions to get as close to direct on the fire line as possible,” said Incident Commander Brian Gales.

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 possible. Safety issues on the fire include large rocks and trees falling onto roadways without warning due to the fire.

**WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR:** Today, the weather similar is to the weather yesterday, with high temperatures in the low to upper 70s and relative humidities in the 30% range. West winds are forecast, with gusts to 10 to 15 mph. Weather is forecast to get warmer and drier over the weekend, but the winds are forecast to stay light.

**SMOKE:** Air quality in and around the communities of Detroit and Sweet Home continues to be listed as “good.” Light winds from the southwest 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><b>Public information:</b>          Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/brulerfire2021">facebook.com/brulerfire2021</a>           E-mail: <a href="mailto:2021.bruler@firenet.gov">2021.bruler@firenet.gov</a>           Phone: 541-223-9601, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Inciweb</b>  <a href="https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7663/">https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7663/</a>           Oregon Smoke Blog  <a href="http://oregonSmoke.blogspot.com/p/air-quality-now.html">http://oregonSmoke.blogspot.com/p/air-quality-now.html</a></p>
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