



Brian Gales, Incident Commander, NWIMT13

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| <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: 254</b>       |

### Bruler Fire Update for Friday, July 23, 2021

**Sweet Home, Ore.** – Firefighters have made progress in completing the alternate and contingency lines around the Bruler Fire perimeter. Sprinklers are effective and are reducing fire activity along the fire perimeter. Containment is now listed at 20%.

Today, firefighters will continue to add to established contingency line and will conduct additional mop up activities. Heavy equipment will strengthen control lines around the fire perimeter.

“Please do your part...don’t be a spark,” said Agency Administrator Nikki Swanson. On average, human-caused wildfires make up 87 percent of all wildfire occurrences annually. Chainsaws, dragging trailer chains, cigarette butts, fireworks, unattended campfires, hot mufflers in tall grass and discharging firearms can create sparks and cause wildfires. Individuals found responsible may have to pay thousands of dollars in fines. Many of these wildfires ignite in proximity to roadways, communities and recreational areas, posing considerable threat to public safety and damage to natural resources. Public use restrictions limit use of campfires and potential ignition sources when local conditions present an elevated risk of fire. More than 95 percent of wildfires are contained in the first 24 hours of initial response, meaning tens of thousands of fires are extinguished before becoming large wildfires.

Fire Managers recognize that closures will be disruptive for many people, especially as the weekend approaches. Decisions about what areas to close, and when, involves careful consideration of potential effects on nearby communities. The Forest’s leadership team is monitoring conditions closely and we will reopen closed areas as soon as we’re able to do so, safely. Our priority is the safety of firefighters and the public. We appreciate the support of the public in allowing us to stay focused on firefighting. Safety issues on the fire include large rocks and trees falling onto roadways without warning due to the fire. Additionally, heavy equipment is traveling the winding and narrow forest roadways, leading to traffic conflicts in the fire area.

**WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR:** Today, the weather is similar to the weather yesterday, with high temperatures in the upper 70s and relative humidities in the 30% range. West winds are forecast, with gusts 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.

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| <p><b>Public information:</b><br/>         Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/brulerfire2021">facebook.com/brulerfire2021</a><br/><br/>         E-mail: <a href="mailto:2021.bruler@firenet.gov">2021.bruler@firenet.gov</a><br/><br/>         Phone: 541-223-9601, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</p> | <p><b>Inciweb</b><br/> <a href="https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7663/">https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7663/</a><br/><br/>         Oregon Smoke Blog<br/> <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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