



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mt Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

Pincer Creek Fire Update

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Date: August 23, 2021
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Pincer Creek Fire Continues to Burn Warmer Weather Expected This Week

Everett, WA, Aug. 23, 2021 – Fire managers report that the Pincer Creek Fire was relatively quiet this weekend due to the cloudier and cooler weather. The fire received periodic drizzle through the weekend. The fire continues to burn more actively in areas where there are pockets of dead and down material from the 2003 fire and smolders in other areas. Fire activity increased after the cloud cover lifted on Saturday afternoon, but resumed the creeping behavior later in the weekend. The fire is approximately 865 acres and continues to burn within the Mineral Park Fire scar.

Over the past several days, the weather has shifted to a more fall like pattern with cloudy, moist, cool weather. “We are thankful that the Pincer Creek Fire has slowed due to the change in weather, but this fire could still give us problems.” Said Kit Moffit, Acting Forest Fire Staff Officer for the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. “Sunny and warm weather are forecast during the first part of the week and we expect the fire to heat up again. We have received questions whether the recent change in weather will allow us to reopen the Cascade River Road past mile post 16. Unfortunately, we aren’t prepared to reopen the road at this time. There is too much fire season remaining. We understand that the closure is a major impact to the public, but we need to keep the public safe”.

Closures: Forest System Road #15 (Cascade River Road) from mile post 16.0 situated at the east boundary of Mineral Park Campground to mile post 18.1, situated at the boundary of North Cascades National Park. The closure is in place to manage recreation traffic east of Mineral Park in case the fire continues to grow. **Fire managers predict that this fire closure will be in place until significant precipitation occurs over the fire area. They will continue to update their fire models to determine if changes can be made to the closure order.** Mineral Park Campground remains open at this time and is not threatened by the fire.

The Mt. Baker Ranger District Cascade River Trail, the Middle Fork Cascade Trail and South Fork Cascade Trail are closed to the public due to their proximity to the Pincer Creek Fire. The Sibley Creek Road and Hidden Lake Trail are not currently threatened by the fire, but are closed to allow firefighters to staff the lookout to support fire operations. This closure order is effective Aug 13, 2021 until rescinded: www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/mbs/alerts-notices.

Smoke: Air quality is currently good in the Puget Sound area. To learn more about changes in air quality in your region go to : wasmoke.blogspot.com/.

Fire Information Phone: 971-334-7674

Fire Information email address: 2021.pincercreek@firenet.gov

Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7797/>

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Hashtags: #PincerCreekFire #FireYear2021

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