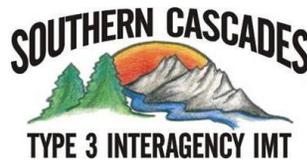




Willamette National Forest



Neil Miller  
 Hans Schmidt (trainee)  
 Incident Commander  
 Type 3 Interagency IMT

**Fire Update –08/01/2016 4:00 p.m. PT**

**ATTENTION RECREATIONAL USERS:** The McKenzie River Trail is closed between Trail Bridge Campground and Carmen Reservoir. This includes all access to the Blue Pool area.

**Closures:** There are two official closures in place for the McKenzie River Trail and Blue Pool Area: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/willamette/alerts-notices>.

High temperatures, low humidity and erratic winds contributed to the growth of the Blue Top Fire over the weekend. Despite this, fire crews aided by two helicopters and several engines made significant progress. A Type 3 Incident Management Team, led by Incident Commander Trainee Hans Schmidt, arrived yesterday to take over control of the fire from McKenzie River Ranger District. Approximately 100 additional firefighters also arrived to aid in the suppression efforts. The fire currently sits at approximately 15 acres.

“The team was able to move in efficiently and set up an operations base at the McKenzie River Ranger Station,” said Schmidt. “Our first priority is to establish a plan for getting this fire out as quickly and as safely as we can considering the steep and rocky terrain. The District did a great job managing the fire initially, but it’s clear this is going to be a long-term effort. I’m confident we will get control of the fire soon,” added Schmidt.

Fire crews will continue line construction. A bulldozer has been called in to reinforce existing lines to keep the fire from spreading towards Highway 126.

The sections of the McKenzie River Trail that access Blue Pool and the entire Blue Pool area remain closed for the near future. “We want to emphasize that public safety is at the forefront of our thoughts as we move forward,” continued Schmidt. “We have law enforcement and security patrolling the area.”

The McKenzie River Ranger District office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM and staff can provide information detailing alternative hikes and recreation destinations in the area. All campgrounds and boat ramps remain open.

The public should remain vigilant when driving on Highway 126 east of McKenzie Bridge. There will be fire traffic, smoke and helicopters in the area.

Quick Facts Blue Top Fire Summary	
Location:	12 miles Northeast of McKenzie Bridge
Approximate Size:	15 acres
Fire Containment:	5%
Start Date:	July 27, 2016
Cause:	Under Investigation
Incident Commander:	Neil Miller, Hans Schmidt (t), Type 3 Team
Resources on the Fire:	(2) Type 2 Handcrews (1) Type I Handcrew 4 Engines 1 Dozer 3 Water tenders Type 1 Helicopter Type 3 Helicopter
Total Personnel:	115
Jurisdiction:	USFS



*This Fire Update was produced by the Blue Top Fire Information Center staffed by Southern Cascades Type 3 Incident Management Team.*

**FOR ADDITIONAL AND UPDATED LOCAL FIRE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:**

Willamette NF: [www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette),

Follow the Fire on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/WillametteNF](http://www.twitter.com/WillametteNF) and on Facebook at U.S. Forest Service - Willamette National Forest

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