

Oregon wild fire update: As of July 15, 2015

Several new fires were reported to Salem Coordination Center in the last 24 hours:

The Baily Butte Fire
The Baily Butte Fire, reported burning in timber, is located approximately 10 miles west of the town of Mitchell. Size of the fire is estimated at 800-1,000 acres.

The Toney Butte Fire was reported yesterday burning in grass, brush, juniper, sage and timber approximately 6 miles southwest of the town of Spray. Size is estimated at 2,000+ acres.

Stage 2 evacuations were issued last night in the west branch road area near Mitchell. The Crystal Springs Campground on the Ochoco National Forest was also evacuated last night.

Resources assigned: 20 engines, 4 crews and multiple

dozers are assigned to this fire.

Fire information: 541-575-1321.

Log Springs Fire
The Log Springs fire was reported yesterday burning in timber and grass approximately 4 1/2 miles northwest of Ukiah. The fire is estimated at 10 acres and is in mop up.

Bear Claw Fire
The Bear Claw Fire was reported yesterday burning in timber and grass approximately 6 miles northwest of the Log Springs Fire and 10 miles northwest of Ukiah. The fire is estimated at 26 acres and is in mop up.

Moccasin Hill Fire
The Moccasin Hill Fire, reported Sunday burning 4 miles north of Sprague River and northeast of Klamath Falls, is now estimated at 2500 acres.

The fire has destroyed a total of 20 structures including six homes in and around the Moccasin Hill subdivision.

ODF IMT 2 assumed command of the Moccasin Hill fire yesterday afternoon. The fire made a 50-60 acre run yesterday, but the winds pushed the fire back into itself, so no additional structures were lost. The flames were quickly extinguished by 6 helicopters along with 3 air tankers. By late afternoon, most of the smoke had cleared. Last night crews were focused on completing a secure line around the fire. A heat seeking, infra-red flight last night produced a more accurate acreage estimate and map.

The mandatory evacuation (Level III) order issued for the Sprague River Drive area was downgraded to Level

1 Monday afternoon.

The fire is 15 percent contained and cause of the fire is under investigation.

Resources assigned: 14 crews, 2 air tankers, 10 helicopters, 33 engines, 8 bulldozers, 7 water tenders. Estimated costs to date: \$1.25 M.

Fire information: Until phone lines are available at the Incident Command Post, please call the ODF office in Klamath Falls at 541-883-5681, or the SCOFMP Fire Information Line at 541-947-6223 for fire information, or follow the incident's website.

White River Fire
The 570-acre White River Fire 12 miles west of Tygh Valley reported Saturday afternoon is now estimated at 65 percent contained. Significant progress was made overnight by crews mopping up the fire,

increasing the number of acres inside the fire line that are fully extinguished. The increase in acreage is due to more accurate information.

Day shift crews will work to hold the recently completed fire lines on the east and west sides of the White River Canyon and run hoselays deeper into the canyon. Mop-up also continues on the high ground on the north and south sides of the canyon. Cause is under investigation.

Resources assigned: 3 Type 2 (medium) helicopters, 2 Type 3 (light) helicopters, 8 engines, 3 bulldozers, 4 water tenders. Fire costs to date: approximately \$1.1 million. Cause is under investigation.

For more information, please follow the incident's website.

Service Creek Fire
The Service Creek Fire, located approximately 11 miles west of Spray, Oregon, is estimated at 385 acres. This fire was 100% contained at 9 a.m. today.

2 crews are still assigned to the fire, which is in mop-up.

Over the weekend, lightning strikes across the state have started a number of smaller sized fires in various jurisdictions, including in the Willamette National Forest (contained, and called the Bingham Complex).

Additional fire information is shared in real time on ODF and other web and social media platforms as it becomes available.

Contact Info:
Cynthia Orlando, 503-945-7421

Ranch ...

Continued from A-1

Since 2011 more than 6,000 volunteer hours have been logged by the community. The organization is entirely staffed by volunteers and funded by donations, community grants and revenue from plant sales and Butterfly Pavilion visitor fees.

Rusk Ranch Nature Center is located at 27746 Redwood Highway, slightly north of Great Cats World Park on the opposite side of the highway. The facility is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 to 5 p.m. with a suggested admission donation of \$6 for adults, \$3 for ages 6 to 17 and free for children 5 and under.



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Dogs ... Continued from A-1

Dugas, a lifelong trainer, formed I.V. Working dogs in 2009. She is well-versed in finding practical solutions to behavioral issues in all breeds: from Chihuahuas and Dachshunds to St. Bernards and Great Danes.

“Theresa is great at teaching breed specific awareness,” said IV Working Dogs member Nancy Lindquist. “She helps us recognize the behaviors and traits these different dogs have, and then trains us accordingly. I have an Akita, and they can be very strong willed, so I have to be strong as well, and consistent.”

Dugas’s methods of training therefore shift, depending on the person and dog involved.

“Once I meet the people and their dogs, it’s obvious what needs to happen,” Dugas said. “It’s always about training the people. The dogs are the easy part. And first, people need to understand their dogs’ breeds.”

“Theresa is very creative about finding solutions,” said Susan Brobst, another member of the group. “It’s all about bonding with your dog and building self esteem and teamwork. And it takes self-discipline to do it right.”

“Having fun with the dogs is our main thing,” Dugas said. “It really gives you a sense of purpose, but if you’re not committed, then it doesn’t work. Those who put the time in find out how much their dogs are capable of learning. I love seeing the growth, in both the dogs and the people.”

It is clear that Dugas places a high value on

empowering the members of I.V. Working Dogs, as many take a lot of ownership in the group and help the organization function. When meeting with group members, one quickly notices they’re all confident people who know how to communicate with each other and their dogs.

“Some members are getting their dogs ready for trials,” Dugas said. “Others are training for socialization and general management. Training your dog is the best way to create a great companion who won’t end up in a shelter because situations became unmanageable.”

Many of Dugas’s clients take their dogs through various certification processes. Earning a Canine Good Citizen (CGC) certificate is becoming increasingly popular, and Dugas has shepherded more than 100 dog and handler teams through the process, which teaches dogs to function well in camp grounds, hotels, dog parks and public events. It can even help with homeowners insurance.

Dugas also encourages getting the whole family involved in training as children thrive on the lessons in teamwork, compassion, consistency and discipline. Another core member of I. V. Working Dogs, Erica Clark, is a great example of this added benefit.

“One of my boys, Seth Blachly, is the youngest handler to successfully take a dog through the American Kennel Club’s CGC test at age six,” Clark said. “And my nine-year-old, Shane Blachly, earned his junior handler certificate and is involved in both Obedience and Rally trials.”

Rally Obedience is a popular sport where competitors proceed around a course of designated stations with their dogs in the “heel” position. Courses consist of ten to 20 signs that instruct the team what to do.

“Dogs of any breed and at any level of training are welcome to join in and the fees are affordable,” Broubst said. “However, dogs must be at least three months of age and have had their shots. We also encourage people to spay and neuter their dogs and to recognize that having a dog is a lifetime commitment.”

Along with the working walk, rallying, and obedience training and CGC, Dugas also trains dogs for personal protection and offers private training sessions as well.

Dugas, a longtime Valley resident, also runs a kennel and breeds German Shepherd dogs for sale. Her line of dogs directly descend from some of the oldest East and West Czech lineages. Dugas’ Shepherds are well known for their easy trainability, awesome temperaments and beauty.

In summertime, the first working walk begins at 7 a.m. and participants move at a fast pace. Then, around 8:15 a.m., a second walk is offered for those who either prefer a slower pace or have beginning dogs. In wintertime, these walks happen at 9 and 10 a.m.

Learn more by going to the Illinois Valley Working Dogs Facebook page, or call Dugas at 541-761-2227.

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