



Update-August 20, 2020

For Immediate Release

Incident Commander: Eric Knerr, Northwest Team 7

Fire Information: 541-553-2004

[Warm Springs, Oregon] Currently there are three fires burning on the Warm Springs Reservation: the P-515 Fire is the largest; the Lionshead Fire; and the Quarts Butte Fire.

At 6:00 a.m. today, an Interagency Incident Management Team (NW Team 7) from the Pacific Northwest (Eric Knerr, IC) assumed management of the P-515 Fire and the Lionshead Fire. Command of the Quarts Butte Fire, which is nearly contained, will remain with Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Fire Management.

The P-515 and Lionshead Fires are burning in areas of grass, shrubs, and heavy timber, approximately 14 miles west of the Warm Springs community. Suppression priorities include limiting the spread of the fires and minimizing the impacts to important cultural and natural resources. *All three fires are being managed for full suppression.*

Current Situation: Since the recent lightning activity there is a high demand for firefighting resources nationally and now regionally. Fire managers are looking for opportunities to safely engage the fires while prioritizing firefighter and public safety and protecting values at risk. COVID-19 mitigations are being taken to limit exposure risks to firefighters and the tribal community, per CDC guidelines. With the dry and windy conditions late yesterday evening, the P-515 Fire made a significant push to east.

P-515 Fire: The P-515 Fire is approximately 2,326 acres and 0% contained. For today's operations, firefighters will continue to secure roads and fire lines on the south and west flanks and scouting for potential containment opportunities on other flanks. *As of tonight, there will be a night operational period or 'swing shift'. As conditions merit these crews will complete burning-out to better secure the containment lines and monitor and patrol fire edges.*

Lionshead Fire: The Lionshead Fire is approximately 368 acres and 0% contained and burning in the Whitewater River Canyon on the north side of the river. Firefighters are scouting the trail along the river for a potential anchor point to begin engagement. Access is difficult on the Lionshead Fire because of the steep terrain and limited road access.

Quarts Butte Fire: The Quarts Butte Fire is 29 acres and is in mop up.

Weather and Fire Behavior: Dry conditions are expected for the next few days, with cooler conditions. However, on Friday as a cold front crosses the area westerly winds will pick up with speeds of 20 to 25 mph, at least. Today potential fire behavior may include areas of very active surface fire spread where fuels are contiguous.

Road Closures: Trout Lake Road at pavement end; Road B140 at Potter's Pond; Road B210 and Road P-500.

Quick Facts	
Incident Summaries	
P-515 / Lionshead	
Approximate Size in Acres:	2,326 ac./ 368 ac.
Fire Containment:	0% / 0%
Incident Commander	Eric Knerr
Resources on the fire:	Crews: 12 Helicopters: 1 Engines: 5 Water Tenders: 2 Dozers: 3
Total Personnel:	530
Jurisdiction:	Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Oregon Smoke Blog http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/	