

Umpqua National Forest

Forest Service News Release

Contact Title: Virginia Gibbons (541) 690-6681 <u>virginia.gibbons@usda.gov</u> https://www.fs.usda.gov/umpqua

Multi-Forest Closure Required for Firefighter & Public Safety

This closure includes portions of the Umpqua, Deschutes, Willamette and Fremont-Winema National Forests

Roseburg, OR August 5, 2022—A multi-forest closure order is now in place to protect firefighter and public safety during suppression efforts associated with the Windigo and Potter Fires.

This area closure includes: a significant portion of the Diamond Peak Wilderness and Summit Lake; skirts the NW side of Crescent Lake, the northern portion of the Mt Thielsen Wilderness, several Forest Service roads, and numerous campgrounds and trails, including the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) from State Hwy 138 (PCT mile 1,848) to State Hwy 58 (PCT mile 1,908). All prior fire closures on the Umpqua NF associated with the Windigo Fire are now included in this larger closure order.

This large closure area is necessary to ensure that firefighters can focus on managing the fire versus having to focus on evacuating visitors should conditions of either fire change rapidly. We understand the inconvenience this creates for the recreation public. We sincerely appreciate your support while we stay focused on firefighting. We will reduce the closure area as soon as we can safely do so.

The full closure order and map is posted on the Umpqua National Forest web page here <u>https://tinyurl.com/58a37mhs</u>

Visit InciWeb for more information on the Windigo Fire at <u>https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8292/</u> or you can visit the "Windigo Fire and Potter Fire Information" Facebook page.

As a reminder, the Umpqua National Forest is currently in Level 1 Public Use Restrictions, IFPL 2 and a very high fire danger rating. See full order here: <u>https://tinyurl.com/ypdjws4d</u>

"A significant amount of wildland fire starts are human-caused. Please use appropriate caution when out in the woods, as fuels are very dry," said Umpqua National Forest Supervisor Alice Carlton.

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