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# Methow Valley Ranger District

## Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests



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## NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** July 6, 2004 – 4:00 p.m.

**Contacts:** Information Officer, Punky Moore, (509) 997-0485

**Subject:** Update on Freezeout & Sunshine Fires - For Immediate Release

### **Freezeout Fire**

**Size:** 150 acres

**Containment:** 17%

**Cause:** Lightning, June 24, 2004

**Location:** Northwestern corner of the Pasayten Wilderness, 2 miles from the Canadian Border, 2 miles east of the Ross Lake National Recreation Area

**Activities:** Attended meeting on July 5, with personnel from North Cascades National Park/Ross Lake National Recreation Area and gathered information necessary for the development of a revised Wildland Fire Situation Analysis. Continued fire monitoring from Desolation Lookout. Made preparations to initiate structural protection of the USGS cabin located south of the fire.

**Resources Assigned:** 29 personnel and 1 helicopter

**Costs to Date:** \$297,609

**Objectives:** Implement tactical and threat mitigation measures that provide for firefighter and public safety

**Concerns:** Steep, rugged terrain, bull trout and spotted owl habitat, USGS cabin

**Fire Behavior:** Very little change, some smoldering and minimal creeping

**Weather Forecast:** 58 degrees, southwest winds @ 5-10 miles per hour, 25 mile per hour gusts, relative humidity 78%

**Management:** Wayne Cook's Interagency Fire Use Management Team

## **Sunshine Fire**

Size: 50 acres

Cause: Lightning, June 22, 2004

Containment: 100% as of July 3, 2004

Location: 8 miles northwest of Mazama, Washington

Personnel Assigned: 14

Costs to date: \$543,000.00

Activities: Monitor by air

Objectives: Confine fire to the upper third of Sunshine Creek drainage

Concerns: Lack of access, steep and rugged terrain

Management: Wayne Cook's Interagency Fire Use Management Team

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