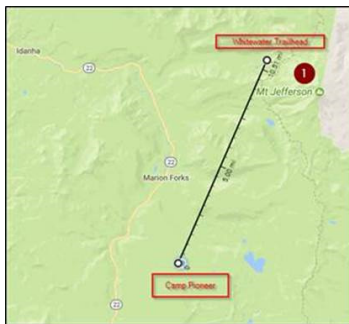


Dear Scouts, Scouters, and Parents,

As you might have seen or heard on the news there is a wildfire in the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness area in the Willamette National Forest. We have gotten a few messages with concern about how this could affect us here at Camp Pioneer. So we are sending this message out to address these questions and hopefully ease concerns that you or your unit may have.

The Whitewater Wildfire is located near the Whitewater Trailhead on the northern side of Mt. Jefferson. This is a distance of approximately 11 miles from Camp Pioneer. The map below shows our relation to the wildfire with a "#1" marker at the site of the fire. **At this time there is little danger of this wildfire reaching Camp Pioneer or a foreseeable need for evacuation from this fire.** We have an excellent relationship with the Willamette USFS and have been actively following developments in the fire. What we are concerned about is the air quality in camp, and visibility along OR-22.

- If you have individuals in your group that have respiratory ailments (Asthma, COPD, etc) we ask that you reach out to them to let them know that camp could potentially be smokey (as well as dusty) so that they can better prepare themselves.
- Before traveling to Camp Pioneer please check Trip Check and local news sources to verify that OR-22 is clear enough to travel safely, or consider taking alternate routes.
- The Willamette National Forest is still in "Moderate" fire danger, and campfires will not be allowed at camp. Gas lanterns, stoves and grill are still okay. The campsite cooking will now be a dining hall meal and those wanting to participate in the Scoutmaster/Adult leader cook off will need to bring a stove/grill and propane to prepare your entry.



Lastly, we will be very proactive in informing you of any pertinent changes and developments regarding the fire. If you would like to view and follow along with the fire information here are two websites that are great sources of information: [Inciweb](http://inciweb.com) and [Willamette National Forest](http://willamette-national-forest.com). If you have any further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Yours in Scouting,
Matt

Matt Silvers | Camp Director
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Cascade Pacific Council | Camp Pioneer
2145 SW Naito Parkway
Portland, Oregon 97201
matthew.silvers@scouting.org

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