



LINCOLN COUNTY FIRE DEFENSE BOARD NOTIFICATION

Issue Date: July 23, 2026

Issued By: Lincoln County Fire Defense Board
Chief Tom Jackson

Notice: Lincoln County & Tillamook County Deploy to
the Akawa Butte Fire in Central Oregon.

For Immediate Release:

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Lincoln and Tillamook County Fire Agencies Deploy to the Akawa Butte Fire, in Deschutes and Jefferson Counties, in Central Oregon.

Lincoln County, — July 23, 2026 — This morning, the Lincoln County Fire Defense Board fulfilled a resource request from the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office by mobilizing **Task Force 32** in support of the Akawa Butte Fire, located approximately 9 miles West of Crooked River Ranch, in Deschutes and Jefferson Counties, in Central Oregon.

Task Force #32 is comprised of units from Lincoln & Tillamook Counties with the following resources.

North Lincoln Fire (Lincoln Co.)	E13	(Type 3 Engine) (3 Firefighters)
Newport Fire (Lincoln Co.)	HB33	(Type 3 Engine) (3 Firefighters)
Netarts-Oceanside Fire (Tillamook Co.)	E62	(Type 3 Engine) (3 Firefighters)
Depoe Bay Fire (Lincoln Co.)	BR21	(Type 6 Engine) (2 Firefighters)
Central Coast Fire (Lincoln Co.)	WT15	(Water Tender) (2 Firefighters)
North Lincoln Fire (Lincoln Co.)	C-11	(Task Force Leader) (1 Firefighter)

The deployment is being led by **Task Force Leader** Cody Heidt of North Lincoln Fire Rescue.

Task Force 32 departed Lincoln County this morning at **18:00 hrs.** and is en route to the staging area in Prineville, Oregon. The team is expected to arrive at approximately **22:00 hrs.** and will be assigned to operational duties immediately upon arrival.

The Akawa Butte Fire started July 16, 2026, and is one of many wildfires burning in Oregon. The fire is currently estimated to be over **26,000 acres** with structures threatened. Firefighters will continue to encounter challenging conditions with increased temperatures and a potential for thunderstorms in the forecast this week. This deployment may last **up to 14 days**, depending on fire activity and operational needs.

Task Force 32 represents the fourth deployment of resources requested by the Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) from Lincoln County fire agencies. These firefighters and apparatus have joined the statewide response to help protect lives, property, and natural resources as wildfire activity continues to increase across Oregon.

As Task Force 7 and Strike Team 7 return from their deployment to the East Evans Creek Road Fire in Jackson County, Task Force 32 is mobilizing to support ongoing wildfire operations. Upon arrival, Task Force 32 will join Task Force 22, which was originally assigned to the Brewer Fire before being reassigned to the Akawa Butte Fire.

As wildfire activity continues across Oregon, the Lincoln County Fire Defense Board recognizes and thanks the firefighters and partner agencies who have answered the call to assist with these ongoing incidents. Their willingness to leave their own communities to protect others is a testament to the dedication, professionalism, and strong mutual aid partnerships that define Oregon's fire service.

While our personnel continue supporting suppression efforts throughout the state, we encourage everyone in Lincoln County to do their part in preventing additional wildfires. Outdoor debris burning remains prohibited countywide, and everyone should use extra caution with any activity that could create a spark or ignite dry vegetation. Small actions can have significant consequences during periods of extreme fire danger.

Every wildfire prevented helps protect lives, property, and the emergency responders working around the clock to contain existing fires. By remaining vigilant and following current fire restrictions, residents and visitors alike can make a meaningful difference in reducing the demand on already stretched firefighting resources.

The Lincoln County Fire Defense Board asks the community to keep those affected by these fires in their thoughts, including the families who have been displaced, as well as the firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency medical personnel, dispatchers, and incident management teams who continue working tirelessly under difficult conditions to protect Oregon's communities.

For more information, please contact:

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