## Sutherland Canyon Fire/Straight Hollow Fire

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| Date of Ignition | June 26, 2017 |
| Cause | Lightning |
| Land Status at Fire Origin | Spokane BLM |
| Preparedness Level at Time of Ignition | National: PL 2  Regional: PL 2 |
| Fire Size | 29,258 acres Sutherland Canyon  8,458 acres Straight Hollow |
| Estimated Cost | $2,990,000 |
| Land Jurisdictions Affected | BLM, Washington DNR, Private |
| Maximum Resources Assigned | 404 Personnel  12 Crews  43 Engines  8 Water Tenders  1 Helicopter  3 Heavy Equipment |
| Structures Destroyed | 1 |
| Cooperators | Bureau of Land Management, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Douglas County Sheriff, Grant County Sheriff, Douglas County, Grant County, Alcoa, Williams Pipeline, The Nature Conservancy |

These two fires developed rapidly from several lightning fires in grass approximately 9-20 miles south of Wenatchee, WA in Chelan, Grant, and Douglas counties. Five of these fires in the Palisades area about eight miles southeast of Wenatchee quickly burned together and were called the Sutherland Canyon Fire. The Straight Hollow Fire was located near East Wenatchee in Douglas County.

Initially type 3 incident commanders handled each fire, but severe to extreme burning conditions, impacts to greater sage-grouse habitat and evacuations, and steep, inaccessible terrain prompted an order for a type 2 incident management team. The team took over management of both fires plus the Spartan Fire on June 28. Both fires spread rapidly in the flashy fuels under high winds. Level 2 evacuations were ordered for central Grant County and Level 3 evacuations in the Palisades Road corridor in connection with the Sutherland Canyon Fire.

Since grass-dominated fuels burn out quickly, containment was 50 percent on the Sutherland Canyon Fire and 75 percent on Straight Hollow by June 29. Level 2 evacuations for Grant County were downgraded to Level 1 on June 29; Level 3 evacuations downgraded to Level 1 for the Palisades Road corridor on June 20, and all evacuation orders lifted by July 1. Traffic accidents closed Highway 28 on June 30, making travel to and from Sutherland Canyon Fire more difficult. Sutherland Canyon Fire also burned an abandoned homestead structure. Although firefighters originally thought that Sutherland Canyon and Straight Hollow fires had burned together, better mapping found that they had not. By July 2, full containment was reached for both fires.

Approximately 4,900 acres of greater sage-grouse habitat burned. As part of contingency planning, the team ran three scenarios in WFDSS to evaluate the potential impact to sage-grouse habitat were the fires to escape from one of three locations under the same weather that was present on June 26 and 27. Under the first scenario, the fire was projected to spread an additional 4 to 5 miles and burn an additional 4,900 acres of habitat. Under the second scenario, the fire might travel up to 8 miles and affect 12,500 acres of habitat. Under the third, and worst case, scenario, the fire could travel up to 13 miles, affecting an additional 52,000 acres of habitat.