

Bear cub badly burned in Washington blaze is back in wild

June 3 2015



In this Aug. 4, 2014 file photo, a female bear cub with badly burned paws who had been named Cinder is put into a crate before a flight from East Wenatchee, Wash., to Lake Tahoe, Calif. Now healed after stints at a California wildlife center and the Idaho Black Bear Rehabilitation center near Boise, she weighs about 125 pounds. Washington state Fish and Wildlife officers plan to release Cinder on Wednesday, June 3, 2015 near Wenatchee, Wash. She'll be released with a buddy, a male cub she befriended in rehab. (Don Seabrook/The Wenatchee World via AP, File)

A bear cub found badly burned last summer in the largest wildfire in

Washington state history has endured a long recovery but is now back in the wild.

Rich Beausoleil with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife says officials released the 2½-year-old cub nicknamed Cinder on Wednesday morning in a central Washington forest. He says the bear was in good shape and "running like a champ" near Wenatchee.

Cinder was found under a horse trailer after the Carlton Complex fire, her paws so scorched that she was pulling herself along by her elbows.

Now healed after stints at a California wildlife center and the Idaho Black Bear Rehabilitation center near Boise, she weighs about 125 pounds.

Cinder was released with an orphaned [cub](#) she had bonded with during rehab.

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