#### **Klamath National Forest**





## **Forest Service News Release**

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# **River Complex Fire Update**

Wednesday September 1, 2021

Public meeting, tonight, Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at 6:00 PM

Trinity Center Elementary School Baseball Field.

New temporary closure order is in effect for all National Forests in California

**Fire Statistics:** Total complex 111,875 acres, 23% containment. **Haypress** 72,505 acres. **Summer** 33,451 acres. **Cronan** 5,919 acres.

**Summary:** Firefighters are making progress in areas across the Cronan, Summer and Haypress fires. The **Cronan Fire** should transition to day and night patrol/monitoring within the next few day. These resources will be moved to the Coffee Creek area of the **Haypress Fire** to support firefighting operations. On the Haypress, an unmanned aerial system (UAS or drone) is being used for aerial ignition in an effort to strengthen firelines in several areas.. Spotting continues to present challenges with more than 100 spots detected yesterday. Firefighters were able to extinguish nearly all, with the reminaing spots remaining a priority for today. Crews will initiate burnout operations in the Coffee Creek area within the next 72 hours to increase structure defense around homes and other values at risk. The Incident Management Team are coordinating with the Monument Fire approximately 13 miles to the south.

### **Today:**

- Strengthen structure defense in the communities of Summerville, Carrville, Coffee Creek and Trinity Center.
- Construct and improve fire line in all divisions where conditions allow, and personnel and equipment are available.
- Continue point protection south and east on the Haywood.

**Fire Behavior:** Moderate fire behavior observed across uncontained lines. Several locations had slope reversals/uphill runs at rapid rates of short to mid-range spotting. Fire continues to back at moderate rates of spread toward Cecilville Road. Fire is well established in Battle Creek and will begin movement uphill to the south.

**Weather:** A low pressure system continues to move across the region. Main impacts to the fire area have seen a reduction of smoke from north to south. Nights will see easterly winds with wind speed around 5-10 MPH depending on terrain. Daytime winds will return to a more west and southwest direction remaining light starting Wednesday.

**Evacuations**: Evacuation Order: Cecilville, Summerville, Petersburg, and Coffee Creek Road Past Sugar Pine Trailhead in Trinity County.

Evacuation Warning: Sawyers Bar, Coffee Creek, Trinity Center

For specific information regarding evacuations, please visit <a href="https://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/emergencyservices">https://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/emergencyservices</a> or <a href="https://www.trinitycounty.org/OES">https://www.trinitycounty.org/OES</a>

An evacuation <u>order</u> means there is an immediate threat to life and is a lawful order to leave immediately. An evacuation <u>warning</u> means there is a potential threat to life or property. Those who require additional time to evacuate and those with pets and livestock should leave now.

**Road Closures:** Trinity County has issued a hard closure of Coffee Creek Road at North Fork Trailhead west of Hwy 3. The Callahan-Cecilville Road is closed from approximately one mile west of the community of Callahan to Cecilville. The Sawyers Bar Road is closed from Forks of Salmon to Forest Road 40N51.

**Forest Closures**: To better provide public and firefighter safety due to the ongoing California wildfire crisis, USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region has issued a temporary closure of all National Forests in California. This closure will be in effect through September 17, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/">https://www.fs.usda.gov/</a> <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r5/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD949139">https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r5/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD949139</a>

### **Resources:**

761 Personnel

16 Hand Crews

9 Helicopters

18 Dozers

27 Water Tenders

9 Masticators

2 Skid Steers

1 Packstsring

Smoke Report: https://wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks/NorthernCalifornia

For additional information, call the River Complex Fire information line at (707) 596-6075 or go to the InciWeb page at <a href="https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7760/">https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7760/</a>