



HAPPY CAMP COMPLEX

INCIDENT UPDATE

Date: 8-18-2023 Time: 8:30 p.m.



facebook.com/KlamathNF
facebook.com/SiskiyouCountySheriff
facebook.com/SiskiyouCountyOES



[@Klamath_NF](https://twitter.com/Klamath_NF)

Fire Information:

Phone Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily

Email: 2023.happycampcomplex@firenet.gov

Incident Website: inciweb.wildfire.gov

Size: 6,304 acres

Containment: 0%

Total Personnel: 631

People Evacuated: 648

Structures Threatened: Approximately 178

Structures Damaged/Destroyed: 9

Fatalities: 1

Start Date & Time: Wednesday, 8-16-2023, 10:27am

Cause: Under Investigation

Location: Multiple locations across the Forest

Suppression Strategy: Full Suppression

Command Agencies: California Interagency Incident Management Team 5, Klamath National Forest

CURRENT SITUATION

This week a series of thunderstorms moved across the Klamath National Forest bringing abundant lightning and igniting roughly 20 fires over the western side of the Forest. The most active of the resulting fires was the Head Fire, burning at the confluence of the Klamath and Scott Rivers. Yesterday the Klamath National Forest brought California Interagency Incident Management Team 5 (CIIMT5) (Mueller) in to manage the fire. With the multiple fires across the Forest, it was decided to manage the majority together as a complex. CIIMT5 was asked to assume command of the Happy Camp Complex, which consists of the following fires: Head, Den, Scott, Gold, Townsend, Elliot, Canyon, Aubrey, Malone, Ufish, Block, and Lake.

The complex is being managed under an aggressive full suppression strategy to protect life, property, and resources. Efforts will be made to minimize impacts to private property, critical infrastructure, commercial timber assets, and surrounding communities. CIIMT5 absorbed fire resources that were working the fires. Additional ground and air resources have been ordered to support the complex, including Type 1 & 2 hand crews, engines, dozers, and aircraft. Currently assigned to the incident are five Type 1 hand crews, five Type 2 hand crews, fifty-seven Type 3 engines, five dozers, four water tenders one heavy helicopter, and one air attack. There are also three rotor wing air assets, not assigned to us, though available if we need to call on them. Unfortunately, most aircraft have been unable to fly due to smoke. In some areas the smoke lifted, and aircraft were able to support the Den, Scott, and Gold fires.

Yesterday evening the complex sent ground resources to assist with the Den Fire. Fire engines performed structure protection and put in a hose lay around a majority of the fire perimeter while hand crews anchored in and cut line around the heel and flanks of the fire. We want to thank our partners from CAL FIRE and the Klamath River Hose Company for their help on the Den Fire. These local volunteer fire companies are critical partners in keeping communities safe.

Today the priority was constructing containment lines around the Head, Den, Scott, Gold, Townsend, Ufish, and Malone, as life and safety is our highest concern. Today's forecasted weather was similar to yesterday's, with a smoke inversion lying over the fire area and communities in the morning and evening. The Den fire has a 20 acre spot fire, but was quickly picked up and firefighters will continue to secure containment line.

This afternoon the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office announced they identified a man found deceased in the Head Fire. Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends. For more information visit the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office [Facebook page](#).

Today a Damage Assessment Team is working to evaluate the damage sustained to structures within the fires area. Their assessment is ongoing. As of this evening, there are nine damaged or destroyed structures.



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EVACUATIONS

View current Siskiyou County evacuation orders and warnings by visiting: community.zonehaven.com

Evacuation Orders are in effect for the following zones in Siskiyou County:

Zone SIS 1236:

- South of Hamburg

Zone SIS 1120:

- East of Horse Creek

Zone SIS 1117:

- South of CA-Hwy 96

Zone SIS 1007:

- North of CA-Hwy 96

Zone SIS 1233:

- South Forest Route 46N64

Zone SIS 2001-B

- South of Scott River Road, Scott Bar Mountain Lookout Road

Zone SIS 1010

- North of Hwy 96

Zone SIS 1123

- East of McKinney Creek Road

Evacuation Warnings are in effect for the following zones in Siskiyou County:

Zone SIS 3502

- North of Hi-You Gulch Road, Mcadam Creek Road

Zone SIS 2007

- North of Fort Jones Road

Zone SIS 2004

- North of Scott River Road

Zone SIS 2001-A

- South of Scott River Road, Scott Bar Mountain Lookout Road

Zone SIS 1230-A

North of Elk Creek Road

Zone SIS 1230-B

- South of Cougar Creek

Zone SIS 1114

- North of Grider Ridger, China Grade Road

Zone SIS 1004

- North of Highway 96

Zone SIS 1313

- South of Forest Route 45n19

Zone SIS 1316

- West of Wrights Lake Road

Zone SIS 1013

- South of Beaver Creek Road

Zone SIS 1016

- West of Hilt-Hungry Road



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Zone SIS 3401

- West of Humbug Creek Road

Zone SIS 1301

- West of Hwy 96

Zone SIS 1302

- North of Forest Route 14N21

ROAD CLOSURES

- Hwy 96 at Hwy 263
- Hwy 96 west of Seiad Valley
- Scott River Road at Kelsey Creek Road

View road closures in the vicinity of the Happy Camp Complex on the Caltrans interactive map: quickmap.dot.ca.gov

EVACUATION CENTERS

Siskiyou County:

- Kahtishraam Wellness Center - Yreka
1403 Kahtishraam, Yreka, CA 96097
Showers and cots are available.

ANIMAL SHELTERS

- Dog Shelter
 - Rescue Ranch Yreka 2216 East Oberlin Road, Yreka CA 96097
Contact: 530-842-0829
- Cat Shelter
 - SNIP of Siskiyou County Armory building 1712 Fairgrounds Rd., Yreka, CA 96097
Contact: 541-531-1086
- Livestock Animal Evacuation Shelter (Horses, pigs, sheep, goats, birds)
 - Siskiyou Golden Fair
1712 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097
Contact: Tom Taylor 530-340-1038

AIR QUALITY

For information smoke impacts and what you can do to protect yourself visit: <https://www.airnow.gov/>