



# HAPPY CAMP COMPLEX

## INCIDENT UPDATE

Date: 8-20-2023 Time: 8:00 p.m.



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**Size:** 10,507 acres  
**Containment:** 0%  
**Total Personnel:** 1,896  
**People Evacuated:** 755  
**Structures Threatened:** 1,609  
**Structures Destroyed:** 9  
**Structures Damaged:** 2  
**Fatalities:** 1

### Fire Information:

**Phone:** (530) 330-5441  
**Hours:** 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily  
**Email:** [2023.happycampcomplex@firenet.gov](mailto:2023.happycampcomplex@firenet.gov)  
**Incident Website:** [inciweb.wildfire.gov](https://inciweb.wildfire.gov)

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

**Cause:** Under Investigation

**Location:** Multiple locations across the Forest

**Suppression Strategy:** Full Suppression

**Unified Command Agencies:** California Incident Management Team 5, CAL FIRE Siskiyou Unit

### CURRENT SITUATION

The Happy Camp Complex is comprised of 12 fires all burning on the Klamath National Forest over a large portion of Siskiyou County. The west side of the complex includes the Canyon, Three Creeks, Elliot, Ufish, and Malone Fires. The Canyon, Three Creeks, and Elliot are burning on the west side of Highway 96. Firefighters are focused on keeping the fires west of the highway and protecting structures along the corridor.

The Ufish is burning east of Highway 96, southeast of Clear Creek. The fire is slowly backing toward the Highway 96 corridor. The Malone Fire is burning west of Elk Creek Road. Active fire behavior was observed on the Malone today and several spot fires ignited outside the primary lines. The spot fires were picked up by crews on scene. The crews are also working to strengthen the initial fireline built around the Malone Fire.

The largest fire on the east side of the complex is the Head Fire. Today the fire was active on the east side. Firefighters used limited tactical firing operations to keep the line even and prevent large runs from occurring. On the north side of the Head Fire, firefighters worked on a dozer line north toward Horse Creek and addressed a 17 acre spot fire to the north of the main fire. Structure protection has been established and continues in the community of Hamburg.

Good progress is being made on the Den, Townsend, and Block Fires and fire managers were able to shift some resources assigned to the Den to the Head Fire. The Block Fire is fully contained and some containment is expected on the Townsend and Den Fires tonight.

The Gold and Scott Fires were very active today and firefighters worked hard to hold the fire on the ridge between Scott Bar Creek and Scott Bar Lookout and north to Anderson Peak. Crews are preparing structures in the area of Scott River as the fires back down slope to the river. A dozer line has been established on the north side of the Gold Fire down to the river.

Two crews have hiked into the Marble Mountain Wilderness to address the Lake Fire. They reported today that the fire activity has moderated. The existing trail system will be used to the greatest extent possible to build a



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line around the Lake Fire. The assigned crews will remain in the area and be resupplied as needed by a pack train.

One-tenth to one-quarter inch of rain is expected to fall on the fire area over the next two days. This will reduce fire behavior significantly and create an opportunity to engage some of the fires directly on the fire's edge. Dozers will be used to open up lines previously constructed on other incidents.

**EVACUATIONS:** View current Siskiyou County evacuation orders, warnings and evacuation center locations by visiting: [community.zonehaven.com](https://community.zonehaven.com)

An evacuation center has been established at the Kahtishraam Wellness Center, 1403 Kahtiishraam, Yreka, CA 95097. Call (530) 340-3539 if you have questions regarding the shelter.

**ROAD CLOSURES:** Highway 96 is closed from Seiad Creek Road to two miles east of Horse Creek. Scott River Road is closed at Kelsey Creek Road. Fire and debris flow will continue to impact the Highway 96 corridor. Please check the Cal Trans website prior to travel in the area. County road closures will be listed on California Highway Patrol website. [quickmap.dot.ca.gov](https://quickmap.dot.ca.gov)

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

For additional information regarding the Happy Camp Complex, please go to the InciWeb page at <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/>