



HAPPY CAMP COMPLEX

INCIDENT UPDATE

Date: 8-21-2023 Time: 8:00 p.m.



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Size: 11,308 acres
Containment: 0%
Total Personnel: 2,193
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
Incident Website: inciweb.wildfire.gov

Start Date & Time: Wednesday, 8-16-2023, 10:27 a.m.

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

The Happy Camp Complex is comprised of 13 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. Additionally, the incident management team assumed command of the Swillup Fire this morning at 6 a.m. The Canyon, Three Creeks, Elliot and Swillup are burning on the west side of Highway 96. Firefighters worked on prepping the structures along Highway 96 today.

The Malone and Ufish Fires are burning east of Highway 96. Today crews constructed direct lines on the north and south edges of the Malone Fire and plumbed in hose lines. Similar operations are planned on the Ufish where the plan is to ultimately tie the fire into Highway 96.

Fires on the east side of the complex are the Head, Gold, Scott, Lake, Den, Townsend, and Block Fires.

Conditions were favorable for direct attack on the Head Fire today and dozers worked on constructing line around much of the perimeter, including an area that had burned across Horse Creek previously. Two hotshot crews worked to the southeast from Scott Bar. Good progress was made both north and south of the community of Hamburg.

Despite the high humidity the Gold and Scott Fires were actively backing down slope today. Firefighters working in the area have completed prepping structures along Scott Bar Road and are making good progress on the perimeter lines.

In the late afternoon moderate rain fell over portions of the complex including, the Head Fire. Although favorable concerning the firefight, the rain is causing debris flows to occur along the Highway 96 corridor.

The increased moisture is expected to remain through Tuesday and temperatures will be 10-15 degrees below normal. With conditions continuing to be favorable fire managers will focus on going direct anywhere it can safely be accomplished over the next two days.



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CURRENT ACRES BURNED:

Canyon (1,108), Three Creeks (320), Elliot (669), Swillup (576), Ufish (583), Malone (129) Head (6,419), Den (294), Townsend (81), Block (0.1), Gold (730), Scott (225), Lake (174)

EVACUATIONS: View current Siskiyou County evacuation orders, warnings by visiting: [community.zonehaven.com](https://www.communityzonehaven.com). Siskiyou County residents are encouraged to sign up for rapid emergency notifications using the CodeRED emergency alert system.

<https://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/emergencyservices/page/codered-emergency-alert>

An evacuation center has been established at the Kahtishraam Wellness Center, 1403 Kahtishraam, 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, [quickmap.dot.ca.gov](https://www.quickmap.dot.ca.gov). County road closures will be listed on the Siskiyou County Public Works website, <https://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/publicworks/page/closures-and-delays>. If you are traveling and encounter mud or debris flow across the roadway do not attempt to cross over the flow. Vehicles can easily be swept off the roadway.

FOREST CLOSURE: Two closure orders have been implemented; Happy Camp Complex Emergency Fire Closure, No.05-05-23-06; Happy Camp Complex Emergency Fire Closure, No. 05-05-23-07. Please refer to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/klamath/alerts-notice> to view the orders and maps.

TEMPORARY FLIGHT RESTRICTION (TFR): A TFR has been established over the fire area. Flight restrictions include the use of drones. Operation of drones under the TFR is prohibited.

PACIFIC CREST TRAIL: The Pacific Crest Trail has been impacted by the Happy Camp Complex and a portion of the trail is within an Emergency Closure Order on the Klamath National Forest. The trail is closed between Etna Summit and the Oregon border.

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/>