



SMITH RIVER COMPLEX—SOUTH

Incident Update

Date: 9/16/23



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youtube.com/@smithrivercomplex-srf

Fire Information: 707-383-9727

Hours: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Email: 2023.SmithRiverComplex@firenet.gov

Incident Website: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/casrf-smith-river-complex-

Location: Six Rivers National Forest

Size: 90, 294 acres

Percent Contained: 51%

Cause: Lightning

Vegetation: Timber (Litter and Understory) and Brush

Number of Personnel Assigned: 1, 677

Start Date: Tuesday, August 15, 2023, 6:01 PM

ANNOUNCEMENT: Effective today Six Rivers National Forest is reducing the forest closure order for the Gasquet, Lower Trinity, and Mad River Ranger Districts. The following Day Use Areas are open for public access: The Forks' Boat Launch; Myrtle Beach River Access; and Margie's River Access. The Mad River Ranger District office will remain open this weekend, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed for lunch at noon. For more information, visit: https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd1139169.pdf.

CURRENT SITUATION: Fire crews focused on conducting fire suppression operations yesterday around the fire's boundary. Crews mopped up burned areas near or around control lines, reinforced existing fire control lines, and checked for heat to detect any remaining fire in burned areas. On the fire's east side near Idlewild, down to Washington Flat and Little Jones Creek, crews continued strategic firing operations through the night and are checking the area for remaining heat. On the Hurdy Gurdy Fire crews continue conducting strategic firing operations on the northwest side and mopping up the lower southern end. Crews completed a shaded fuel break near Table Mountain and are conducting hazard tree abatement along the fire line. On the southwestern side, near Coon Creek, crews are actively patrolling the area and mopping up as needed. In Stoney Creek, north of Gasquet, crews and helicopters continue suppressing areas of heat to prevent fire progression. On the western side active fire remains in steep and hard to access terrain. Helicopter water drops are being used for fire suppression all around the active fireline. Going into the weekend fire behavior is remaining minimal for much of the fire due to smoke inversion with some areas of moderate behavior.

WEATHER: Conditions remain unseasonably warm and dry with very light winds. Expect smoke to hang in the valleys with a shallow inversion and poor visibility. Fuels will be dry and receptive.

EVACUATIONS: Some Del Norte County evacuation zones remain under either a Level 2 (Get Set) or Level 1 (Get Ready) evacuation order. View the interactive evacuation map online: tinyurl.com/29vv2wpm.

AIR QUALITY: Smoke Outlooks with air quality and forecast information are available here: tinyurl.com/258mfms3.

CLOSURES: US 199 in Del Norte County will be fully closed twice daily, Monday through Friday, from 8 AM to 11 AM and from 1 PM. to 4 PM. During all open hours, traffic will be one-way and piloted between Madrona and Oregon Mountain Road. Motorists should anticipate delays during all open hours. Caltrans provides information on current highway conditions online (roads.dot.ca.gov), by phone (800-427-7623), and on Facebook (facebook.com/CaltransD1).

Six Rivers National Forest lands, roads, trails, and recreation sites in the vicinity of the complex are closed (Forest Order No. 10-23-06). View the Order and closure map on the Forest's website: tinyurl.com/4atens8c.