



## August Complex Fire Update Northwest and Northeast Zones October 9, 2020

**Northwest Zone Incident Commander: Rob Allen**

**Northeast Zone Incident Commander: Tony DeMasters**

**Start Date:** 8/17/2020 **Location:** Shasta-Trinity NF; Six Rivers NF; Mendocino NF **Cause:** Lightning

**Fire Size (All Zones):** 1,021,476 **Containment:** 65% **Personnel (All Zones):** 4,866

**Weather:** Temperatures will continue a steady downward climb today, temperatures in the low 70s with slightly higher relative humidities and south/southwest winds at 10-15 mph with gusts to 20. A chance of rain remains for Saturday.

**Northwest Zone** – Firefighters worked to improve containment and contingency lines while finishing up firing operations from Ruth Lake through the Gobbler and Lassic Fires burn scars to below Mule Ridge. Firefighters worked in the Ruth Lake and South Fork Trinity River areas. Such burning will help eliminate unburned fuels between constructed lines and the fire edge. Crews worked diligently to improve and build lines from Coffee Pot north to Goat Hill and up to Mule Ridge. Firefighters finished preparing dozer lines from Zenia eastward to Little Round Mountain yesterday. Under favorable conditions, they began firing operations and carried them through the night shift to completion, bringing the fire down to planned containment lines. Helicopters were busy yesterday, supporting firefighters on the North Fork Eel River with water buckets near the fireline.

Today, crews will mop up along containment lines and patrol around nearby structures in the Ruth Lake Area. West of the lake, crews will build line from the Lassic Fire burn scar near Coffee Pot, eastward towards the lake. Crews will conduct mop up and patrol along yesterday's burn south of Little Round Mountain. Helicopters remain ready to assist firefighters on the ground with bucket support and reconnaissance operations.

**Northeast Zone** – Lighter winds and higher overnight humidity assisted firefighters in holding and strengthening existing containment lines. Dozers, chippers, and hand crews continued strengthening contingency lines north of Hwy 36 in the South Fork Trinity River, Little Bear Wallow drainage along FS Road 1S14H, and further east along Hwy 36 near Post Mountain. Smoke remained thick in these areas yesterday and did not allow air resources to assist firefighters with suppression efforts.

Yesterday fire activity in the Beegum Creek area moderated and handcrews continued building and reinforcing containment lines directly along the fire edge. The U.S. Marines Corps Engineer Support Battalion from Camp Pendleton, which includes 250 Marines, are now assigned to the Northeast Zone of the fire and worked along hotshots and handcrews in Beegum Creek to build fire line and mop up hotspots. Heavy helicopters were utilized in this area to drop retardant on ridges and reinforce existing lines. Structure protection actions south of Hwy 36 near Harrison Gulch were completed yesterday and assessments and preparations will continue.

Crews will continue building contingency lines in the South Fork Trinity River drainage near Bear Wallow Creek, with assistance from dozers, chippers and masticators. These efforts will require additional days to complete due to the very steep and rugged terrain in the drainage. Along the Hwy 36 corridor southeast of Post Mountain, crews will continue their efforts. In the Beegum Creek drainage crews will continue line construction and mopup along the fire edge. Smoke is likely to clear today and allow helicopters to drop water on hot spots and assist firefighters. Also, along the Hwy 36 corridor PG&E personnel will be conducting powerline inspections and repairs in order to restore power and communications in the next few days.

**For Trinity County Evacuation Information, please contact: 530-623-2611 or visit:**

<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityCoOES/>

**For Humboldt County Evacuation, please contact: 707-268-2500 or visit: [humboldtsheriff.org](http://humboldtsheriff.org)**

### Road Closures:

For updated Road Closure information, visit Caltrans at <https://roads.dot.ca.gov/>.

**Forest Closures are still in effect and can be found here:**

- Shasta-Trinity National Forest: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/stnf/forestorders>
- Mendocino National Forest: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/mendocino/alerts-notices>
- Six Rivers National Forest: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/srnf/alerts-notices>

**Northwest Fire Information:** (707)-867-0965  
**Email:** [2020.Elkhorn@firenet.gov](mailto:2020.Elkhorn@firenet.gov)

**Northeast Fire Information:** (530) 628-0039  
[inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6983/](https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6983/)