



## August Complex Fire Update Northwest and Northeast Zones October 11, 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):** 1,028,529

**Containment:** 74%

**Personnel (All Zones):** 4,798

**Weather:** Rains fell across much of the fire area yesterday providing some much-needed moisture, anywhere between 0.12 inches and 0.25 inches. ***This was by no-means a season-ending event, and the fire is still active.*** Starting today and continuing for the next several days the chance of rain is 0%. This drying trend will combine with increased temperatures over the next couple days, which could increase fire behavior and intensity. For today, temperatures remain cool with highs in the low 70's with N/NW winds at 8-12 mph.

**Northwest Zone** – Crews took advantage of yesterday's moisture to further-solidify containment lines over much of the Northwest Zone. Masticators continued their important work of clearing roadway debris and removing felled trees north of Ruth Lake along Mad River Road. Dozers worked nearby, building secondary containment line. Firefighters have completed line construction from Van Duzen Road to the Mad River Road at Ruth Lake. Due to poor visibility, helicopters were not in operation.

Today, crews continue mopping up along containment lines across the Northwest Zone and patrolling around nearby structures in the Ruth Lake Area and north on the Mad River Road. West of the Ruth Lake, crews continue line construction from the Lassic Fire burn scar near Coffee Pot eastward towards the lake. Dozers continue indirect line construction north of Mad River Road on the 12 Road. Crews continue mop up and patrol along the burn south of Little Round Mountain. In the coming days, firing operations may commence in unburned islands near the fireline in the Ketten Pom area. This work would consume unburned fuel at a low intensity. Helicopters remain ready to assist firefighters on the ground with bucket support, reconnaissance operations, and potential aerial ignition support.

**Northeast Zone** – Fire activity was moderated yesterday by high humidity and some precipitation that occurred across most areas of the fire. Where rain showers were heavier crews patrolled the fire from Hwy 36. The moisture allowed fire crews to make good progress and engage the fire directly in the afternoon. Near Irish Mountain and Little Bear Wallow Creek the fire received near one tenth of an inch of rain and hand crews completed and strengthened direct line around spot fires that crossed firelines the previous day. Heavy helicopters assisted firefighters here yesterday as skies cleared and dropped numerous buckets of water to extinguish hot spots near the fire's edge. South of Post Mountain and in the Rattlesnake Creek area crews were able to gain increased depth with their mop-up work and further secure the fireline. In Beegum Creek the fire received less rain, however firefighters were able to keep the fire within its current footprint due to overall subdued fire activity.

Today, northwest winds behind the passing front could gust to 15 mph and will bring drier air across the fire. In the afternoon, fire activity may increase where wind comes into alignment with terrain and slope, especially in the Beegum Creek drainage. Additional fire resources and hotshot crews will be deployed to focus areas in Beegum Creek, south of Pony Buck Peak and Bear Wallow Creek. In South Fork Trinity River drainage, firefighters will work to fortify contingency dozer and hand lines and continue brushing FS Road 1S14. In Bear Wallow Creek near Progeny, crews will install hose lays and conduct strategic firing operations to secure fireline. North of Hwy 36 and in the communities of Beegum and Patina firefighters will further structure assessments and preparations.

**For Trinity County evacuation information,** please contact: 530-623-2611 or visit:

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

**For Humboldt County evacuation information,** 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-notice>
- Six Rivers National Forest: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/srnf/alerts-notice>

**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/](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6983/)