



**U.S. Forest Service**  
**Klamath National Forest**  
**Six Rivers National Forest**  
**Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest**



## News Release

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Facebook [@SlaterandDevilFireInformation](#) or

[@KlamathNF](#) or [@SixRiversNF](#) or [@R6RRSNF](#)

Smoke information: <https://wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks>

InciWeb: [inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7173/](https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7173/)

### Slater and Devil Fires Update

Thursday, October 8 2020; 9:00 a.m.

**A virtual community briefing will be offered on Friday, October 9th at 5:00pm on the Slater and Devil Fires Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/SlaterAndDevilFireInformation](https://www.facebook.com/SlaterAndDevilFireInformation). Presenters will include the Northwest Incident Management Team 7 Incident Commander, Planning Operations Section Chief, National Forest managers, and other local officials. Questions can be submitted ahead of time via email at [slaterfirenorth.information@gmail.com](mailto:slaterfirenorth.information@gmail.com) or on our Facebook page. Hope you can join us!**

#### **Slater Fire – 155,726 acres and 67% containment**

On the northern flank, mop up, patrol, and structure defense continue along fire lines, with crews steadily increasing the depth of containment. Firefighters have completed containment lines south of Browntown in the Deadman's Gulch area, and extended hand line towards Swan Mountain.

Yesterday, on the eastern flank, increased southwesterly winds pushed the fire across a portion of hand line near Swan Mountain. Heavy smoke obscured the ground from aerial monitoring, but an unmanned aerial system (drone) with infrared sensing capability revealed a several acre slop-over in the headwaters of the left fork of Sucker Creek. Firefighters continue work to contain the slop-over in tandem with assessing additional dozer line opportunities utilizing existing roads and natural openings.

On the southern portion of the fire, crews continue to patrol, monitor, and reinforce containment lines in Happy Camp and along the southwest flank up to Kelly Lake. Firefighters are focused on containing spot fires, as well as increasing the depth of containment.

In the southwest portion of the fire, in the Knopki and Chicago Creek drainages, firefighters are working to keep the fire east of Chicago Creek. Work is underway to open roads leading into the East Fork of Chicago Creek, and build fire line to the south to tie into the area burned by the 2018 Natchez Fire. The trend toward cooler temperatures, southwesterly wind and higher humidity makes fire spread increasingly unlikely in that location.

Hazard tree removal along the Grayback Road (also known as Happy Camp Highway) between Takilma and Happy Camp is a high priority. This work will restore safe, reliable access for firefighters, residents, and those working to bring power to Happy Camp. Repair of other roads damaged by the fire and fire suppression actions is ramping up ahead of impending wet weather.

#### **Devil Fire - 8,755 acres and 32% containment**

The fire area has mostly been obscured by smoke, limiting opportunities for accurate monitoring. Mop up and patrol continue along the northern and southern areas of the fire, with lines holding along the Butte Fork of the



Applegate River, 1040 Road, and Pacific Crest Trail. Crews continue patrolling the southeast flank, building fire line into the Fort Goff Creek area.

**Weather and Fire Behavior**

Cooler, moister air is expected over the fire area today. The pattern continues Friday, accompanied by brisk winds from the southwest. Rain is likely Saturday morning and afternoon, with rainfall totals expected between one-tenth and one-quarter inch. These conditions will slow the fire’s rate of spread. Areas exposed to higher winds from the southwest may show increased burning, but potential for increased fire activity will be moderated by higher humidity and lower temperatures.

**Evacuations**

Anyone interested in accessing their home or property should contact the local sheriff’s office.

**Siskiyou County** information: (530) 841-2900 or [www.facebook.com/SiskiyouCountySheriff/](http://www.facebook.com/SiskiyouCountySheriff/)

**Del Norte County** information: (707) 464-7213 or [www.facebook.com/DelNorteOfficeOfEmergencyServices](http://www.facebook.com/DelNorteOfficeOfEmergencyServices) and [www.preparedelnorte.com/](http://www.preparedelnorte.com/)

**Closures**

The Klamath, Six Rivers, and Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forests have issued fire area closure orders for the Slater and Devil Fires. The Pacific Southwest Region is under emergency fire restrictions, although the use of gas stoves is allowed in open developed recreation sites. Find closure orders and maps at: [www.fs.usda.gov/klamath](http://www.fs.usda.gov/klamath), [www.fs.usda.gov/rogue-siskiyou](http://www.fs.usda.gov/rogue-siskiyou), and [www.fs.usda.gov/srnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/srnf).

Portions of both the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest’s Wild Rivers Ranger District and Siskiyou Mountains Ranger District have reopened for use. Some areas remain closed for emergency crews’ safety and to allow for fire suppression and burned area recovery. Find closure orders and maps at: [www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/rogue-siskiyou/alerts-notices](http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/rogue-siskiyou/alerts-notices).

The Bureau of Land Management Medford District has public lands closures in effect near the Slater Fire and South Obenchain Fire. Find closure area maps at: [www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/oregon-washington/fire-restrictions](http://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/oregon-washington/fire-restrictions).

Incident Statistics	
Size:	
Slater	155,726
Devil	8,755
Containment:	
Slater	67%
Devil	32%
Injuries:	7
Fatalities:	2
Date detected:	9/8/2020
Cause:	Under investigation
Structures Threatened:	150
Structures Damaged:	11
Structures Lost (total):	440
Residential	197
Commercial	1
Mixed	5
Other	237
Estimated cost:	
Slater	\$38.2 million
Devil	\$472,478
Resources	
Hand Crews:	27
Engines:	59
Helicopters:	6
Fixed wing aircraft:	2
Dozers:	1
Water tenders:	14
Total Personnel:	1,058

