



Slater/Devil Fires Update

Thursday, September 18, 2020; 8:30 AM



Fire origin: September 7 ,2020

Fire Information: (530) 324-2528 Hours: 8am – 8pm

Media Information: (541) 249-5117 Hours: 8am – 8pm

Email: Slaterfirenorth.information@gmail.com

Websites: Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7173/>

Facebook: Klamath National Forest Facebook Page, Six Rivers National Forest Facebook Page

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

As of 0600 today, the northern zones of the Slater and Devil Fires are under unified command with Doug Turman’s Northern Rockies Incident Management Team 2 and Scott Magers’ Oregon State Fire Marshal’s Blue Team. California Team 10 will continue to manage the south zones of the Slater Fire and Devil Fires.

Weather: Rising temperatures along with a lighter smoke inversion resulted in increased fire behavior. Light, scattered showers are predicted today. Winds will to shift from the southwest to the northwest.

Evacuations:

Current evacuation orders are posted on Siskiyou County Sheriff’s Office Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SiskiyouCountySheriff/.

For Del Norte County evacuation information, see

www.facebook.com/DelNorteOfficeOfEmergencyServices

www.preparedelnorte.com/

Evacuation order/warning info and other resources for Josephine County can be found by calling Josephine County Fire Information Center 541-474-5305 (8am-8pm) or online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/josephinecountyEM>, <https://www.co.josephine.or.us/fire>, or www.rvem.org

Closures: The USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region has extended the [Regional Order](#) temporarily closing all eighteen National Forests in California and the portions of Pacific Southwest region Forests in Nevada and Oregon. The Klamath National Forest, including the portion of the Forest in Oregon remains closed.

The Bureau of Land Management Medford District has temporarily closed all Bureau of Land Management-administered public lands south of Grants Pass, Interstate 5, and U.S. Route 199 to the border of the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest. Maps of the closure areas are available on the Bureau of Land Management’s

website: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/oregon-washington/fire-restrictions>.

Summary:

Slater Fire: Operations continued to implement direct and indirect fire strategies. Work included completing dozer line from Monkey Ridge to Highway 199. On the northern side of the fire near Shepherd Hills, crews were able to tie a small spot fire back into Forest Road 4803. Priorities for firefighters in the south zone today are to ensure that private properties in Thompson Creek are protected. Isolated pockets of fuel continue to burn as the Slater Fire backs down in that drainage. A secondary priority for today is to mop up along the mostly cold fire edge near Highway 96 so that fire operations can move out of the road corridor. Mop-up continues around the town of Happy Camp, while the Grayback Road will be closed this morning for power pole repair. Construction of indirect fireline along the north side of Seiad Valley continues. Along the Slater Fire’s west flank, there has been very little growth in the past several days below Kelly

Incident Statistics	
Size:	143,092 Acres
Containment	10 %
Injuries:	0
Fatalities:	2
Date detected:	September 7, 2020
Cause:	Under investigation
Structures Threatened	5,120
Structures Lost (Residences)	150
Estimated cost	\$6.3 million
Resources	
Hand Crews:	18
Engines:	123
Helicopters:	8
Dozers:	31
Water tenders:	28
Total Personnel:	1143

Lake. With increased visibility, air operations may be better able to assist firefighters on the ground today, and the public may be better able to see fire activity.

The Oregon State Fire Marshal has 11 structural task forces assigned to the Slater Fire. Their primary mission is to protect citizens, their property, and the environment from fire. They are working in conjunction with wildland crews.

Devil Fire: Resources are engaging the fire as it wants to spread toward Applegate Lake. The Devil Fire continued to hold along its eastern edge at the Pacific Crest Trail. Crews are working ridges just off the northeastern edge of the fire to meet crews working in the north zone. They have worked up the east edge of the fire and are looking for a way to hook the fire across the north side of the Devil Fire. The Devil Fire is at 7, 144 acres.

Gasquet Area: Firefighters held the fire at the Knopki Road to protect the town of Gasquet. They will work to complete operations to secure the fire edge at the intersection of Highway 199 and Knopki Road. Structure protection activity continues from Knopki Road to the town of Gasquet. A community meeting will be held today at 5:00pm at the Smith River Ranger District located in Gasquet.