

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





# **News Release**

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Smoke information: <a href="https://wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks">https://wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks</a> InciWeb: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7173/

# **Slater and Devil Fires Update**

Saturday, October 24, 2020; 9:00 a.m.

This will be Northwest Incident Management Team 7's last day managing the Slater and Devil Fires. Beginning Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm two type 3 teams will be taking command of the Slater and Devil Fires.

### Slater Fire - 156,682 acres and 85% containment

Some increased fire activity was observed near Swan Mountain yesterday tied to the persistent warming and drying conditions. Water bucket drops were used to cool areas where heat was present.

The north and south flanks remain in a patrol status, with ongoing suppression repair and mop up efforts underway. Crews continue to focus on backhauling equipment that is no longer needed on fire lines, while further securing the lines.

The eastern flank is being monitored with aviation resources.

On the western flank, firefighters continue to monitor the Chicago Creek drainage, which is showing reduced heat in that area.

Reopening the Grayback Road continues to be a high priority. The road remains closed to public use due to unsafe hazard trees.

# Devil Fire - 8,885 acres and 65% containment

The Devil Fire is being monitored by aviation resources.

#### Weather and Fire Behavior

A frontal system continues to move into the area, bringing potential for intermittent light rain and a brief increase of humidity levels across the fire area as well as windy conditions. A Red Flag warning has been issued beginning Sunday due to low humidity and increasing east winds, particularly mid-slope and on ridges. Simultaneously, some freeze warnings have been issued for low elevation areas like the Illinois Valley. Despite briefly higher humidity, fire activity could increase tomorrow with a potential for surface fire spread in areas that have sustained the most drying.



#### **Evacuations**

In Happy Camp, the Mandatory Evacuation is still in effect above the intersection of Indian Meadows Road and Indian Creek Road.

For specific information regarding evacuations see the following: Siskiyou County Office of Emergency Services information: (530) 643-3662 or www.facebook.com/SiskiyouCountyOES

#### **Closures and Restrictions**

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: <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/klamath">www.fs.usda.gov/klamath</a>, <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/rogue-siskiyou">www.fs.usda.gov/rogue-siskiyou</a>, and <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/srnf">www.fs.usda.gov/srnf</a>.

Additional portions of the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest's have reopened for use, with some areas remaining closed for emergency crews' safety and to allow for fire suppression and burned area recovery. Find closure orders and maps at: <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/rogue-siskiyou/alerts-notices.">www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/rogue-siskiyou/alerts-notices.</a>. The latest updates on fire danger levels and public use restrictions within the Forest are available at: <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/rogue-siskiyou/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD824854">www.fs.usda.gov/detail/rogue-siskiyou/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD824854</a>.

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

Burned Area Emergency Recovery information and resources for private landowners impacted by the Slater and Devil Fires are available at: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7237/.

# **Incident Statistics**

Size:

Slater 156,682 Devil 8,885

Containment:

Slater 85% Devil 65%

Injuries: 12 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 \$49.3 million Devil \$679,525

#### Resources

Hand Crews: 8
Engines: 14
Helicopters: 3
Fixed wing aircraft: 2
Dozers: 2
Water tenders: 1
Total Personnel: 498

**Prevention Message:** Now more than ever, please prevent wildfires.





