



# AUGUST COMPLEX-NORTH ZONE INCIDENT UPDATE

Date: 09/17/2020

Incident Website: [inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6983/](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6983/)

Incident Information Line:(530) 628-0039

8:00 am – 8:00 pm



@ShastaTrinityNF  
@SixRiversNF  
@MendocinoNF



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@MendocinoNF

Incident Email: 2020.Elkhorn@firenet.gov

## Incident Facts-August Complex

<b>Date Started:</b>	August 17, 2020	<b>Structures Threatened:</b>	1,595
<b>Acres Burned:</b>	817,847 (All Zones)	<b>Structures Destroyed:</b>	35
<b>Containment:</b>	30 percent	<b>Expected Containment:</b>	November 15, 2020
<b>Injuries:</b>	11	<b>Cause:</b>	Lightning
<b>Fatalities:</b>	1		

**Current Situation (August Complex-North Zone):** A cold front will move through the area bringing a slight chance of light showers this evening and tomorrow. Priorities remain on structure defense, indirect line construction (away from the fire’s edge), direct line construction and tactical firing operations (applying fire on the ground to remove vegetation and widen containment lines).

Structure defense continues in Ruth Valley and structure preparation is ongoing in the communities of Hettenshaw and Kettenpom Valleys, Forest Glen and Trinity Pines/Post Mountain. The public is reminded to stay aware of current fire conditions. Please follow all Evacuation Orders and Warnings when they are issued.

The fire spotted to the north of Rattlesnake Ridge and it is a priority to stop the progress north toward Forest Glen, and Trinity Pines/Post Mountain. Line construction continues from Ruth Valley west to the Middle Fork of the Eel River.

Firefighters continue to construct indirect line to Horse Ridge and direct line to the Middle Fork of the Eel River. Direct and indirect control lines from Ruth Lake Road to Mad River Ridge are also being worked on.

On the northeast perimeter (Shasta-Trinity National Forest), good progress has been made and crews continue to reinforce the containment line along the 35 Road using tactical firing operations. Established containment lines in this area are being actively monitored.

Smoke has been preventing the use of aircraft, however yesterday air operations were able to occur on the west side of the fire.

In the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness along Wrights Ridge, the August Complex North and South Zones continue to merge, therefore it is not safe to put firefighters in the area.

**Weather:** A low pressure system will bring increased southwest winds today. Higher relative humidity is expected with a slight chance for late afternoon showers in southwest Trinity County. Winds are expected on the ridgetops between 10-15 mph with gusts to 25 mph. Rain chances diminish later Friday and wetting rains are not expected. A drier and warmer pattern is expected for early next week.

**Smoke Outlook:** Continue to expect improving air quality today on the south and west of the fire due to predominant southwesterly and westerly winds. Smoke from the northern portion of the incident will move more north by northeast

## Evacuation Orders and Warnings:

### Trinity County: Evacuation Orders

- Ruth, Zenia, Kettenpom, Hettenshaw Valley, Forest Glen, and Trinity Pines/Post Mountain
- The southeast area of Ruth Lake up to and including Journey's End

### Evacuation Warnings

- Mad River and the north area of Ruth Lake from Journey's End to Highway 36

Additional Information for Trinity County:

- <https://www.facebook.com/Trinity-County-Sheriffs-Office-1635934306689276>
- Trinity County Sheriff Department: 530-623-8127
- Office of Emergency Services: Office: 530-623-1116
- Trinity County OES: <https://www.trinitycounty.org/OES>
- Trinity Emergency Alert Network: <https://www.trinitycounty.org/oes/codered>

**Evacuation Centers:** Humboldt County Fairgrounds, 1250 5th St., Ferndale, CA

### Mendocino County:

For information on evacuation orders and warnings please contact the following:

- South Zone fire information: 530-487-4602
- For more information on the South Zone of the August Complex, visit this link: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/article/6983/55895/>
- Mendocino County Sheriff Department: 707-234-6052;

### Humboldt County:

For information on evacuation orders and warnings please contact the following:

- West Zone fire information: (707)355-4926
- For more information on the West Zone of the August Complex, visit this link: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/8/16/august-complex-includes-doe-fire/>
- Evacuation Line for Humboldt County residents is 707-268-2500.

### Forest Closures: Shasta-Trinity, Mendocino, and Six Rivers National Forests.

Due to unprecedented and historic fire conditions throughout the state, the USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region has closed all 18 national forests in California. This includes the Mendocino, Shasta- Trinity and Six Rivers National Forests. It is critical that all national forest visitors follow these important closures and restrictions for their own safety and the safety of our firefighters.

**Cooperating Agencies:** Trinity County Sheriff's Office, Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, Mendocino Sheriff's Office, Trinity County OES, Humboldt County OES, California Highway Patrol, National Weather Service, BLM, Cal OES, CAL FIRE

**Safety Message:** Tree hazards include dead or dying trees, dead parts of live trees, or unstable live trees (due to structural defects or other factors) that are within striking distance of people or property. You can minimize your risk by being aware of trees around you and; avoid all dead trees, hazardous trees and the danger zone in which they may fall; never underestimate the danger posed by small trees; avoid trees with excessive lean (10 degrees or greater); be especially cautious of hazard trees in strong winds.

**Wildfire Preparedness: Plan, Know and Act.** *Ready, Set, Go.* Leaving early gives you and your family the best chance of surviving a wildland fire and helps keep the roads clear so firefighters are able to move strategically and lend more focus to suppression efforts in a safer environment. An important part of leaving early is preparing ahead of time. Take this time to put together an evacuation plan and pack go bags for your family.

For more information visit the following at: [www.readyforwildfire.org/](http://www.readyforwildfire.org/)