



U.S. Forest Service  
Klamath National Forest  
1711 South Main Street  
Yreka CA 96097



# News Release

Faulkstein Fire Information: 530-468-1510  
Frying Pan Fire Information 530-493-1510  
Web: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4078>  
Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/1snfZFQ>

## Happy Camp Complex Morning Update August 29, 2014

**Date Started:** August 11, 2014                      **Size:** 44,549 acres total for the complex  
**Containment:** 20 percent for the complex                      **Estimated Containment Date:** September 8, 2014  
**Estimated Cost to Date:** \$24.4 million                      **Total Personnel:** 1,563  
**Committed Resources:** 46 crews, 8 helicopters, 86 engines, 15 dozers, 16 water tenders

### Mandatory Evacuations Expanded

- Scott Valley Road from Bridge Flat to the intersection of Hwy. 96
- All areas south of Hwy. 96 between Scott River Road and Cade Summit
- All areas north of Hwy 96 from Seiad Creek Road to Scott River Road

The following areas are included in the order: Walker Creek Road, Grider Creek Road, China Grade Road and residences on Seiad Creek Road approximately two miles from Highway 96.

An evacuation center has been established at Winema Hall at the Siskiyou County Fairgrounds, 1712 Fairlane Road, Yreka. Both large and small animals will be accommodated at the Fairgrounds. Large animal transport can be arranged through the Sheriff's Posse. Contact Jodi Aceves, (530) 340-2422 to arrange transport. For more information contact the Siskiyou County Sheriff Department at (530) 841-2900.

An Evacuation Advisory issued Aug. 13, 2014, continues for residents of Happy Camp along China Grade Road from Elk Creek Bridge to Frying Pan Creek. China Grade Road is open to residents only.

On the **Faulkstein Fire** last evening, firefighters worked at establishing containment where opportunities were presented. Some direct line construction occurred along the southern portion of the fire. Fire growth continued overall in the complex was active until 9 p.m. The Faulkstein and Frying Pan fires have merged. In the Salt Creek area, on the northern portion of the complex, crews are scouting the area and looking for possible points of engagement.

Today we can expect conditions similar to the past two days, with a rapid acceleration of fire behavior when the inversion layer lifts over the fire area in mid- to late-afternoon. A dry cold front entering the fire area is predicted to challenge firefighting efforts today. This cold front should bring gusty winds and

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a directional change with winds out of the northwest. This will impact the areas of Grider Creek and along Walker Ridge. With this change in weather, air operations will have the opportunity to engage in suppression efforts if smoke clears enough.

Fire operations have increased traffic on Scott River Road. Traffic control has been implemented over a one-mile section of the road. Travelers should expect delays.

The **Frying Pan Fire** grew 12,310 acres on Thursday to 38,989 acres and is 10-percent contained. Yesterday the Frying Pan Fire grew mostly to the east and northeast. The fire is threatening approximately 650 structures. Completed and ongoing protective actions include limbing trees, clearing brush, removing yard debris and brushing roads.

Strong winds and low humidity, together with heavy dry fuels, resulted in fire runs of three to four miles mainly east across the Grider Creek drainage and to the northeast. Large pyrocumulus smoke columns formed over the fire during the afternoon and early evening. This is one indication of very active burning.

However, the containment lines near Happy Camp and on the west side of the fire continue to hold. A couple of spot fires were contained on the fire's south end. Fire activity in this area has slowed as it moves into the 2008 Panther Fire perimeter. The north edge of the fire is holding, though the fire is pushing to the north and northeast in the Grider Creek area.

**Weather and Fire Behavior:** West winds from 10-12 mph will continue today, gusting to 25 mph. While yesterday's critical fire weather conditions may slightly moderate today, conditions are expected to support very active fire behavior again. The fire is expected to push further to the east. There may be a slight cooling trend over the next few days.

**Safety:** A Clean Air Respite Center is available at the Karuk Tribe Senior Nutrition Center in Happy Camp (64101 Second Avenue). The center is open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily and will remain open longer if needed due to smoky conditions.

**Air quality:** High pressure remains in place over the area today. Light winds this morning will become westerly by midday. Smoke impacting the communities east of the fires should lessen for a few hours early in the day, but is likely to return as fire activity increases this afternoon and evening. Impacts are likely to be highest in Happy Camp, Seiad Valley, Sawyers Bar, Yreka and Scott Valley again today.

For more information about air quality in the area, visit <http://californiasmokeinfo.blogspot.com/>

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