



United States Department of Agriculture

U.S. Forest Service  
Pacific Southwest Region  
Plumas National Forest  
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Fire Information (530) 316-4487  
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[www.facebook.com/USFSPlumas](https://www.facebook.com/USFSPlumas)  
[inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6997/](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6997/)



## North Complex Fire Evening Update September 18, 2020

**Incident Start Date:** 8/17/2020      **Size:** 287,354 acres    **Containment:** 54%  
**Engines:** 252   **Handcrews:** 51   **Dozers:** 86   **Helicopters:** 24   **Water Tenders:** 94   **Total Personnel:** 2,815  
**Fatalities:** 15      **Structures Damaged/Destroyed:** 1,335

### Current Situation

Despite strong gusty winds today, firefighters made excellent progress and were able to successfully put approximately 14 miles of black containment line on the map.

See the latest video announcement on the Plumas National Forest Facebook page at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1005362186597266&extid=zNJRRCATXanYqhIq>

#### *South Zone:*

Crews continued mop up from Sly Creek Reservoir up to Onion Valley today. Due to their success, they plan to reduce staffing there, in order to focus in other priority areas. The handline being built along Fingerboard Ridge is now almost complete, ready for tactical firing when weather conditions become favorable tomorrow. The eastern portion of the fire continues to hold within containment lines.

#### *North Zone:*

Firefighters contained the large 200-acre spot fire at Grizzly Lake area today, and monitored for any spot fires from Willow Creek west to Red Mountain and Frog Rock. Tonight and into tomorrow they will focus on tying in containment line between Willow Creek and Red Mountain, and from Red Mountain across Granite Basin to Four Trees, working to defend nearby communities. Firing operations will start once these indirect containment lines are built to box in the fire's edge.

From Four Trees down to Big Bend, crews also made great progress in mop up efforts.

#### *West Zone:*

See CAL FIRE Team 4 updates at: [www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/8/18/north-complex-fire/](http://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/8/18/north-complex-fire/)

**Twice daily video operational updates are available to watch on the Plumas National Forest Facebook Page, and once daily Zoom broadcasts of Planning and Cooperator meetings on Inciweb (links above).**

### Evacuations and Road Closures

Today the Butte County Sheriff reduced an Evacuation Order to an Advisory on Highway 162 from the Bidwell Bar Bridge north to Simmons Road and all areas accessed from Simmons Road.

Orders and Advisories are still in place for communities in Butte, Plumas, and Yuba Counties. Please check your respective county's websites and Facebook pages for the latest on evacuations and road closures. You can also sign up with your county for reverse 911 notifications by registering with the CODE RED system.

### **Weather and Air Quality**

Tonight winds are expected to gradually diminish throughout the night, becoming more variable and giving way to local downslope winds. Temperatures will lower to the 40s and 50s along ridges, with relative humidity at about 50%. Smoke decreased today due to southwest winds drifting them east. Smoke outlook:

[fires.airfire.org/outlooks/EasternSierra](https://fires.airfire.org/outlooks/EasternSierra) or [www.airnow.gov/](http://www.airnow.gov/)

### **Plumas National Forest, forest-wide closure:**

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/plumas/alerts-notice>

*California Interagency Incident Management Team 4 is implementing measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in both the fire area and surrounding communities.*