



Helena-Fork Fire Update

September 21, 2017 8:00 a.m.

Fire Information: 530-628-0039 8am to 8pm / helenafireinfo@gmail.com

Helena and Fork Fire <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5564>



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The Helena Fire continues to burn near Junction City and Weaverville, CA. The Fork Fire is located north of Monument Peak and southwest of East Fork Lakes in the Trinity Alps Wilderness.

Helena Fire – Size: 18,427 acres **Cause:** Human - under investigation

Fork Fire – Size: 3,536 acres **Cause:** Lightning

Helena-Fork Resources: **Engines:** 22 **Crews:** 16 **Dozers:** 8 **Water Tenders:** 8
Helicopters: 7 **Total Personnel:** 643

Containment- 75%

Status: Join us to learn how Incident Management Teams support firefighters on large fires! A Public Camp Tour is planned for Friday, September 22, at 2pm. Please RSVP to the fire information line (530-628-0039 or helenafireinfo@gmail.com) if you plan to attend. Details to follow.

Minimal activity was observed on the fire overnight. Despite yesterday’s precipitation, crews completed handline east of the residences on Canyon Creek Road and continued to improve lines along Conner Creek. They also continued work on repairing contingency and completed lines as they could, and brought in excess hose and equipment. Today, crews will focus on building containment line directly along the western edge of the Fork Fire east of Canyon Creek Road and on holding and improving lines around the fire. While an estimated quarter- to half- inch of rain fell across the majority of the fire area, it was not enough moisture to put the fire out. Firefighters will be carefully watching and suppressing any smokes that appears close to the fireline, and residents should be aware that interior smoke will be visible for the foreseeable future.

Weather and Smoke: Unseasonably cool temperatures and high humidity will continue today. Some afternoon cloud cover is expected to move into the area this afternoon, but should produce only minimal shower activity. A warming, drying trend is expected over the weekend. Winds are expected to remain light.

Other Area Fires: Several other lightning-caused fires are burning on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, including the Buck Fire, which is burning near Black Rock Mountain (close to the Yolla-Bolly Middle Eel Wilderness). Information is available on InciWeb at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/unit/3/>.

Forest Closure Order: A [Forest Closure Order](#) remains in effect for National Forest Lands impacted by the Helena and Fork Fires on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. This order is for firefighter and public safety and will remain in effect until the Helena and Fork Fires are declared out. **The forest closure order also applies to hunters.**

Wilderness/Recreation Access: The BLM Junction City Campground and Bagdad River Access on Highway 299, as well as the Grapevine Swimming Hole on East Fork Road, are closed. A complete [list of roads and trails](#) affected by the forest closure is available on <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov>. The Shasta-Trinity National Forest website lists [all recreation sites](#) on the Forest to provide alternative recreational opportunities. Please note: Pigeon Point Campground and River Access are open.

Fire Restrictions: Despite recent weather changes, fire restrictions remain in effect on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. Please check <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/stnf/alerts-notice> for alerts and notices.