



# Helena-Fork Fire Update

September 22, 2017 8:00 a.m.

Fire Information: 530-628-0039 8am to 8pm / [helenafireinfo@gmail.com](mailto: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:** 18,386 acres      **Cause:** Human - under investigation

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

**Helena-Fork Resources:**      **Engines:** 14      **Crews:** 17      **Dozers:** 8      **Water Tenders:** 5  
**Helicopters:** 4      **Total Personnel:** 607

**Containment-** 75%

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

The fire stayed well within its existing perimeter overnight. Crews monitored spread between the Helena and Fork Fires, but little growth occurred. Today, firefighters will work to secure and improve line directly along the western edge of the Helena Fire to prevent any spread toward residences along Canyon Creek Road. They expect to complete that line today. Crews will continue to patrol and mop up along the rest of the fire perimeter. Little heat has been detected for several days now, but a warming and drying trend is predicted and firefighters will monitor for any additional heat that could threaten the fire perimeter. Crews will continue to backhaul excess equipment off firelines, including pumps and hoses, and to repair roads and lines used for fire suppression.

**Weather and Smoke:** Another cool days is expected today, with temperatures about 5 degrees warmer than yesterday. This warming, drying trend is expected to continue into the weekend, with more sunshine today as the upper level low pressure moves away from the fire area.

**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.