



U.S. Forest Service
Six Rivers National Forest
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Eureka, CA 95501
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www.fs.usda.gov/srnf

Fire Update



Orleans Complex Information (619)359-3415
2017orleanscomplex@gmail.com

Orleans Complex Update – August 17, 2017

Incident/Complex	Acres	Percent Contained	Personnel	Crews	Engines	Heli	Structures Destroyed	Evacs	Closures
Orleans Complex	5832	40	717	20	27	8	0	No	Yes

EUREKA, California, August 17, 2017 The Orleans Complex is comprised of 19 fires and is currently 5832 acres with 40% contained. The complex includes the Ukonom at 3854 acres (52% contained), the Burney at 1123 acres (0% contained), Frank at 13 acres (0% contained), Hooligan at 0.1 acres (0% contained), Haypress at 545 acres (0% contained), Zulu 1 through 7 that ranged from 0.1 acres to 18 acres, and the Forks at 246 acres (0% contained). Terrain in the fire area is steep, rugged and remote. Crews continue to use a confinement strategy focused on existing roads and fire lines to reduce the hazards to firefighters, and keep fires in remote areas of the National Forest to protect heritage, cultural and natural resources.

Fuel types include brush and timber. Heavy precipitation from last winter has weakened trees and created increased dead and down fuel loads. Most fires are burning in burn scars that occurred within the last 10-20 years. Fuel moistures remain high, however fire behavior remains active.

The Haypress fire continues to be the most active in the complex. Spot fires continue to grow north of Forest Road 13N42. Measures including tactical firing operations will be conducted when appropriate.

Smoke impacts will continue to be heavy in the region due to several active fires in the Klamath and Six Rivers National Forests. Smoke has settled into communities along the Klamath River drainage, from Seiad Valley downstream to Weitchpec. Additionally, northeasterly winds are carrying smoke further south to Willow Creek and into communities along the coast from Crescent City to Eureka. For up-to-date Air Quality Advisory Information, the public can call toll-free 1-866-BURN-DAY (1-866-287-6329), or visit the NCUAQMD website www.ncuaqmd.org. For additional information regarding this PSA, please contact: North Coast Air Quality Management District 707 L Street, Eureka, CA 95501, (707) 443-3093

The Ten Bear Trailhead leading to the Marble Mountain Wilderness is closed. Hikers wanting to access the wilderness should contact the Orleans District Office (530) 627-3291 or Orleans Complex Fire Information (619) 359-3415 for details on affected trails.

A Temporary Flight Restriction Area (TFR) has been set over the fire area to provide a safe environment for firefighting aviation operations, *“If you fly, we can’t”*.

A portion of the Happy Camp Ranger District, in the vicinity of the Ukonom Fire, is closed to public entry for the duration of the fire due to the risks associated with an active wildfire. The closure stretches from the bank of the Klamath River east to the Independence Creek Road and includes Ukonom Creek. Please review Klamath National Forest, Emergency Closure order number 17-05-797 for complete details at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/article/5433/37176/>.

Motorists traveling on State Highway 96 are reminded that there will be large amounts of fire traffic. Please drive with caution.

The Six Rivers National Forest remains under fire restrictions to provide for public and resource safety. Details about these restrictions can be found on the forest website at www.fs.usda.gov/srnf. For more information, smoke forecasts, maps and photographs please visit the Orleans Complex Inciweb site at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5430/>.

The Six Rivers is managed to provide access to high-quality recreation opportunities for the public, sustain and protect natural resources for their ecological and commercial value, and serve as an economic development resource to the region. The Forest staff and local communities are meeting the challenge of balancing these multiple objectives through creative partnerships and cooperative stewardship of the land.

The forest and the many communities, located within and near its boundaries, are mutually dependent on one another. This is particularly true in wildfire prevention and suppression, which is a critical function of the Six Rivers' fire and aviation management program. Partnerships with tribes and local community organizations, such as fire safe councils, are crucial for preventing wildfires as well as protecting local communities through treatment of hazardous forest fuels.

Cooperators on the incident include representatives from the Karuk, Yurok and Hoopa Tribes, California Conservation Corps, Siskiyou County Sheriff Department, and Caltrans.

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