

Flat Fire

July 18, 2023

Morning Update



Flat Fire Quick Facts

Size: 8,204

Cause: Under Investigation

Start Date: July 15, 2023

Total personnel: 378

2 bulldozers

Location: 2 miles south east
Agness, OR

Resources: 16 Engines
13 crews

2 water tenders
7 helicopters

Current Situation: The Flat Fire is burning in historic burn scars from the Biscuit and Klondike fires. Firefighters are working around standing dead trees (snags) and thick vegetation within these burn scars. The landscape is characterized by steep terrain and limited access points. Fire managers are being deliberate on firefighting tactics to keep firefighters safe, protect surrounding communities, and infrastructure. Night crews were able to take advantage of more favorable conditions overnight. The fire is expected to continue to be active today creating heavy smoke in nearby communities.

Today's activities: More resources have arrived and will do so over the next several days. Firefighters are continuing to strengthen and create new firelines. Firefighters are gaining reconnaissance looking for opportunities to use existing barriers (roads, bodies of water) to safely engage the fire. Fire managers will be using aviation resources as conditions and visibility allow.

Evacuations: Please monitor the Curry and Josephine County Sheriff's Offices for official evacuation notices.

Weather: Sunny, warm, and dry with northeast winds.

Closures: The Rogue River Siskiyou National Forest has issued a [closure order](#) for the fire area including trails, roads, and a portion of the Illinois River. Please be careful when driving in the area due to increased fire traffic.

Restrictions: Fire Restrictions are in place on the <https://www.fs.usda.gov/rogue-siskiyou>

Smoke: Smoke Forecast Outlooks are available at <https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook>

Information Line: 541-216-4579 8am-8pm

Media inquires: 541-237-6369 8am-8pm

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/flatfireoregon2023> **Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/FlatFireOR2023>

Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcc.gov/incident-information/xx1002-flat-fire> **Email:** 2023.flat.or@firenet.gov