

Siskiyou County Wildfires

Situation Report No. 1

August 11, 2022



CORE
Community Organized Relief Effort



1. OVERVIEW

Dry weather, powerful winds, and lightning storms in late July and early August of 2022 have caused multiple destructive wildfires to consume over 68,000 acres of land in Northern California’s Siskiyou County. The McKinney Fire has caused four confirmed deaths, and both the McKinney and Yeti Fires have caused severe damage to homes and structures, forcing many communities to evacuate their homes.

2. CORE'S RESPONSE

CORE is working with local leaders, partners, and Indigenous tribes to address the critical needs of those affected by the McKinney and Yeti Fires in Siskiyou County of Northern California. Its current activities include:

- Creating urgent, defensible space for homeowners and preparing property for fire through clearing roofs and gutters, and moving flammable material away from homes
- Distributing emergency go-bags at churches and community centers for evacuees with essential resources such as hygiene kits, N-95 masks, and other basic necessities

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

4 confirmed fatalities

185 structures destroyed

4,000 structures threatened

68,000 acres burned

*Source: CAL FIRE (August 11, 2022)

CORE'S RESPONSE



resource distribution



communication assistance



property preparation

CORE's mission is to empower communities in and beyond crisis.

More information: www.coreresponse.org, and follow CORE on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

- Facilitating communication to residents on fire outlook, evacuation orders, warnings, evacuation zones, and maps
- Assisting community members in signing up for Code Red alerts for quick access to fire and evacuation updates

3. ACTIVITIES

Highlights:

July 31

- Field visits to Weed and Dunsmuir, tools and PPE prepared
- CORE connects with new partner, Torchbearr, to increase team size and reach
- Team meets with Quartz Valley Tribe on plans to create defensible space on elders' homes

August 1

- Clearing of roofs and gutters of debris, removing vegetative and household debris away, and creating handlines around 2 homes
- CORE attends McKinney Fire Community Meeting to connect with Red Cross, news outlets, volunteers, and fire survivors

August 2

- CORE deploys technology into the field to support first responders and community members
- CORE coordinates with Incident Management Teams (IMT) and local entities on information sharing with the public
- CORE visits Red Cross shelter in Weed to discuss needs for charging stations

August 3

- CORE continues to create fire lines around home perimeters, limbing up trees, and moving flammable material away from homes



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August 4

- CORE provides laptop use to community members who need access to email, sign up for Code Red, and find their zone on Zone Haven
- CORE prepares and distributes go-bags at local churches and shelters with 72 hours' worth of emergency supplies for McKinney Fire survivors
- IMT for Yeti Fire supplies CORE with information to provide to public as PIOs
- CORE helps fill gaps in communication regarding general information about fire outlook, evacuation orders, and evacuation zones for Yeti Fire
- CORE provides charging stations available in Happy Camp at Public Information Table

August 5

- CORE team members assist community members with signing up for Code Red emergency alerts

August 6

- CORE teams assess 27 more homes to provide home preparation
- CORE helps 150 households identify their evacuation zones and differences between Warnings and Orders
- CORE distributes 80 go-bags to community members affected by the Yeti Fire

August 7

- CORE contracts a Karuk tribe group to complete defensible space work

August 8

- CORE connects with Incident Commander in Training and Fire Chief for the Lassen National Forest on potential future programming and PIO training for community members
- CORE continues to distribute educational materials on fire-safe homes and evacuation

August 9

- CORE prioritizes home preparation on homes in the evacuation warning zones, homeowners who are elderly or disabled, and those that had their previous residence burn down in the 2020 Slater Fire
- CORE team briefs fuel reduction contractors from the Karuk Tribe on next home preparation sites in Happy Camp
- Team coordinates removal of vegetative debris from homes to dump in Happy Camp

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Resource Coordination

CORE is distributing the following resources to support those most impacted by the wildfires and vulnerable populations.

- Emergency Go-Bags – hygiene kits, N-95 masks, electrolytes, hand sanitizer, notebooks, other basic emergency supplies
- Technology – computers, chargers

4. NEXT STEPS

CORE's immediate priorities for the response are:

- Continue collecting feedback from homeowners CORE has assisted with home preparation and defensible space
- Assess evolving needs of wildfire victims and adapt support measures accordingly
- Pursue local partners that can help add capacity to long-term relief operations in communities affected by wildfires



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