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SPORTS, 1B

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025 | REDDING.COM

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Green Fire grows to 11,600 acres

Smoke pollution soars over Redding

Jessica Skropanic
Redding Record Searchlight
USA TODAY NETWORK

Firefighters continued to battle the fast-moving Green Fire, burning in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest wilderness northeast of Redding, roughly 8 miles west of Montgomery Creek. Fueled by extreme heat and dry con-

ditions, the fire grew to 13,366 acres by 8 a.m. Tuesday — up from 11,643 acres on Monday, according to the U.S. Forest Service. The fire remained 5% contained since it spread up against the Pit River over the weekend. Smoke from the Green Fire boosted air pollution levels over Redding and other parts of Shasta County.

More inside

Local air pollution reaches unhealthy levels due to smoke. **9A**
Update on 2 sick, injured firefighters. **9A**
Pollution reached levels considered very unhealthy to hazardous to people's health throughout the day on Monday, according to the Environmental Protection Agency's AirNow pollution count web page.

The good news was that heavy smoke helped cool the air into the high 90s over the fire during the day, firefighters reported. At the same time a heat wave was in effect on Monday in Redding and the rest of the North State. Parts of the Sacramento Valley were expected to reach as high as 110 degrees after a scorching weekend had already dried out air and vegetation.

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Motorists navigate flooded streets July 15 in Westchester, New York. Heavy rain spurred flash floods across areas of the New York City area. EDUARDO MUNOZ/REUTERS

Storms, flash floods strike eastern U.S.

Extreme heat fuels Grand Canyon fires

Jeanine Santucci
USA TODAY

Commuters in several major cities across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic were hampered by flash flooding after storms dumped heavy rainfall that swamped roads, knocked out power and

prompted water rescues on July 14. The storms caused flash flooding in metropolitan areas from New York City to Washington, DC, prompting road closures and a state of emergency declaration in New Jersey. In northern New Jersey, between 3 and 6.5 inches of rain fell, the National Weather Service in Mount Holly said. Among the communities hardest hit were a cluster of New York City suburbs, according to MyCentralJersey.com, part

of the USA TODAY Network. Multiple counties in New Jersey reported road closures. Thousands lost power the evening of July 14, with most service restored by the next morning. Photos shared by the National Weather Service in New York City showed parts of the Bronx River Parkway covered by floodwaters early the

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Officials, advocates react to hate crime

Michele Chandler
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Three days after a local advocacy group called on Shasta County District Attorney Stephanie Bridgett to scrutinize an alleged hate crime reported last week near Redding, Shasta County Sheriff Michael Johnson issued a statement saying his department will “ensure a thorough investigation” of the incident. “Hate crimes generate fear, division, and pain; therefore, those crimes will not be tolerated,” said Johnson’s statement, which was released on the agency’s Facebook page on Monday. Johnson said the sheriff’s office is “actively investigating” the hate crime that was reported last week. He said deputies are working with the district attorney’s office on the case. According to Johnson’s statement, “investigating deputies are working closely with the District Attorney’s Office to ensure a thorough investigation and appropriate prosecution. We are committed to using every available resource to render justice for those affected and to hold those responsible accountable for the crimes they have committed.” The sheriff’s statement followed a press conference held on Sunday morning at the Redding Public Library, where speakers with the Shasta Equal Justice Coalition advocacy group called for robust prosecution of the Igo man who authorities said fired on a

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Good morning!
Karen Lamb

Volume 177 | No. 105
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