

KNEELAND HELITACK BASE

The Kneeland Helitack Base was established in 1982 and is located in the CDF Humboldt-Del Norte Unit in the town of Kneeland.

Kneeland responds to an average of 100 calls per year ranging from fires to rescues. On a daily basis, the crew of Kneeland consists of two pilots, two fire captains, one fire apparatus engineer, and six firefighters. Kneeland Helitack operates a UH-1H helicopter. Also operated out of Kneeland Helitack Base is the helitender, which serves as a support vehicle for the copter. The helitender contains 1,000 gallons of fuel, along with foam, backup tools, out-of-county bags, an extra bucket, paperwork, Meals Ready to Eat (MRE's) and many other items that are necessary to support the *helitack crew.



Kneeland provides coverage and protection from Oregon down to Mendocino and all the way to Weaverville.

*CDF helitack crews consist of highly trained and experienced firefighters who are assigned to and respond to wildland fires aboard CDF helicopters. Once arriving on an incident the crew, typically 5 to 6 firefighters along with a fire captain, are let off with fire fighting hand tools and initiate fire suppression actions. Helitack crews also perform other helicopter support operations when not assigned to direct fire line operations such as helibase operations and support.

*For information about other helitack bases,
visit the **Air Program** page of the
CDF website:
www.fire.ca.gov*



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