



East Slide Rock Ridge Fire Update

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

Wednesday, August 27, 2008, 9:00 AM

On the Web at: www.fs.fed.us/r4/htnf or <http://www.inciweb.org>
Info Center (775) 748-4141 -- Hours of Operation: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

By The Numbers

Acres: 42,307

Containment: 0%

Personnel: 559

Type 1 Hotshot Crews: 6

Type 2 Crews: 6

Helicopters: 6

Engines: 25

Dozers: 6

Water Tenders: 14

PUBLIC MEETING TONIGHT

Fire managers and agency representatives will provide a fire update and answer questions on the East Slide Rock Ridge Fire at a community meeting tonight at 5:30 MDT at the Three Creek School (located 36 miles west of Rogerson).

(Elko, NV) – Cooler temperatures, higher humidity levels, and more favorable winds aligned on Tuesday and allowed firefighters to get some good work done on the East Slide Rock Ridge fire. Around midnight on Monday the wind flow shifted to a northwest flow, slowing the fire's growth to the north. This wind pattern continued throughout the day on Tuesday.

After the skies cleared Tuesday morning fire managers flew the fire to assess impacts from Monday's activity. The fire did not reach Pole Creek Guard Station and firefighters returned to the spike camp yesterday as it did not appear to be in imminent danger. The fire did burn through some grazing allotments; that damage is still being assessed. No homes, outbuildings, or roads were destroyed.

The fire continued to burn actively in timbered and grass areas, with a growth of almost 4,000 acres yesterday. In many areas, firefighters employed direct suppression tactics due to the more moderate fire behavior. A heavy air tanker and two SEATs began dropping retardant on the northern edges of the fire mid-morning, and combined with dozer lines, proved effective in holding the fire in its current location, approximately three miles south of Murphy Hot Springs.

Engines and other resources will remain in both Murphy Hot Springs and Jarbidge areas to provide structure protection if necessary. Helicopters and air tankers will be available today, as needed, to assist ground resources with containment efforts. Additionally, firefighters will construct dozer lines well in front of the fire perimeter on the southeast side of the fire to prevent spread in an area that was rehabbed several years ago.

Fire personnel are assessing lines today to determine a containment figure.

Weather today is expected to be much the same as Tuesday. On Thursday, the winds will return to a southwesterly flow.

The safety of firefighters and the public remains the top priority. An area closure established for public safety remains in effect. A description of the closure area and fire information may be found on the Humboldt-Toiyabe website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/htnf>.

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