

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service

Eldorado National Forest

Amador Ranger District

26820 Silver Drive, Pioneer, CA 95666



Contact: Don Jensen, Fire Information Officer

209-295-5977

Release: Immediate

Date: June 22, 2004, 1700 hrs.

Moke Fire Information Update #3

Pioneer, California: The Moke Fire was more accurately mapped on Tuesday morning and the total acreage was determined to be approximately 400 acres. Fire is actively burning in several areas. Five hand crews and four helicopters worked all day to increase containment to 40% of the fire perimeter.

Although the fire is burning in very steep and rough terrain, there have been no injuries reported by any of the 120 personnel working on the fire. Fire officials expect the fire to continue to grow slowly, but they are still looking at full containment by Friday, June 25th.

Firefighters are using "light hand on the land" suppression tactics to suppress this wilderness fire. These tactics include utilizing natural barriers to stop the advance of the fire, whenever possible. This tactic helps to maintain the integrity of the wilderness, while achieving containment of the fire.

Hikers in the Eldorado National Forest portion of The Mokelumne Wilderness should be aware that a wilderness permit is required for overnight stays in the wilderness. Wilderness permits can be obtained at the Amador Ranger District office and the Carson Pass Visitors Center. There is no charge for the wilderness permits. But, hikers should be advised that there are some areas of the Mokelumne Wilderness where campfires are not allowed. Personnel at the Amador District office and visitor center can assist in planning a safe and enjoyable wilderness experience.