

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

## **USDA Forest Service**

### **Eldorado National Forest**

Amador Ranger District

26820 Silver Drive, Pioneer, CA 95666



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**Release: Immediate**

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#### **Moke Fire Information Update #4**

**Pioneer, California:** Productive work by firefighters and favorable weather conditions have slowed the advance of the Moke Fire. The fire is now 400 acres in size and 40% contained. Five hand crews, supported by four helicopters continued their effort on Wednesday. Full containment is expected by Friday. No injuries have been reported on the incident, so far. The total cost of the fire through Wednesday is estimated to be approximately \$250,000.

A Forest Service fire investigator determined that an abandoned campfire was the cause of the Moke Fire. Campers should be advised to make sure that they are building a campfire in an area where campfires are allowed and have a valid permit. Permits and information are available from any Forest Service Ranger District office. Campers should also make sure that their campfire is totally out before leaving the area. If negligence can be proved in relation to an escaped campfire, the responsible person could be liable for suppression costs of the fire. Assure that a campfire is “dead out” by drowning, stirring and feeling that the fire is cold, before leaving the area.