



CANYON COMPLEX FIRE UPDATE



Location: Plumas National Forest

Fire Start Date: June 22, 2008

Update: June 28, 2008 AM

California Incident Management Team # 3 (Incident Commander – Jeanne Pincha-Tulley)

Acres: 8718 **Resources:** 842 personnel **Containment:** 5%

Current Situation: The inversion lifted east of Bucks Lake Summit yesterday, allowing two helicopters to work the Cold Fire with bucket drops. Fire lines held on roads along the east and west sides of the Cold Fire and the fire has remained above Nelson Creek.

Further west, the Rock 2 Fire was contained at 25 acres and the Pit Fire may burn into the area of the Storrie Fire of 2001. The 5 acre Chips Fire was discovered in remote terrain. Smoky conditions kept rappellers from getting to the fire, but they plan to access it today.

The far western edge of the Canyon Complex was an area of increased fire activity. Smoke was too thick to view the now joined Quarry and Island Fires and several fires on the nearby Butte Complex were active on their eastern flanks. Fire fighters were pulled back from the Quarry/Island Fire in the afternoon for safety due to this combination of fire behavior and poor visibility.

Fire fighters continued to patrol and mop up the Pit, Fox and Four Mile Fires, while other crews continue to line the Hartman and several other fires. The Sky High and Little fires will be scouted today. As the inversion lifts, smoke columns may be observed

Summary: The fire is more active with increased air circulation. The improved visibility allows eastern Plumas County residents in many locations to see flames from the Cold Fire. This reminds citizens and fire fighters alike that there is still heat in the fire interior though fire lines are holding along the edges. West of the Bucks Lake Summit, the light east winds were unable to clear the canyons of smoke and visibility remained poor. Warmer temperatures were evident, though, and west side fires were also more active than during past days.

As we begin the weekend, residents and visitors are urged to be cautious in outdoor activities. Everyone is reminded that current Plumas NF fire restrictions prohibit any fire outside of developed campgrounds and smoking is prohibited except within closed vehicles. Fireworks of any type are always prohibited on National Forests.

There is a 30% chance of dry lightning storms with possible wind gusts today. While continuing to fight active fires, the Incident Management Team will also keep hand crews and engines in reserve for initial attack of potential new fire starts. There are also 32 rappellers available to reach remote starts by helicopter.

A Forest Order has closed some areas with active fire to protect visitors. The closure covers public land generally bounded by the North and Middle Forks of the Feather River toward the Pacific Crest, the Bucks Lake Wilderness and land surrounding the Cold Fire. Please refer to maps and descriptions posted on the Plumas National Forest website.

Private businesses and resorts in forest communities, including facilities around Bucks Lake, remain open. All county highways, including the Oroville-Quincy Road and the Quincy-LaPorte Road remain open along their entire lengths. Highway 70 remains closed by Caltrans from Pulga to the Greenville Wye. Changing conditions may require further road closures. Drivers should check road conditions prior to travel. Caltrans information: 1-800-427-7623

Residents of Plumas and Butte Counties are advised to consider air quality in their daily activities. For air quality information, please visit www.countyofplumas.com, for Butte County: www.bcaqmd.org. No evacuations are currently in effect due to fires in the Canyon Complex.

Fire information: internet www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas ; phone (530) 283-7882, 7883, or 7884 (hours 6am to 10pm)

Fire protection information: <http://plumasfiresafe.org>

Jeanne Pincha-Tulley
Incident Commander, CIIMT#3