



CANYON COMPLEX FIRE UPDATE



Location: Plumas National Forest Fire

Start Date: June 22, 2008

Update: July 2, 2008 AM

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

Acres: 12,243

Resources: 945 personnel

Containment: 40%

Current Situation: Yesterday, progress continued on the 5,319 acre Cold Fire as firefighters reinforced containment lines. Helicopters continued to support suppression efforts with reconnaissance and water drops. The north and west containment lines were improved and held through the burning period. A spot on the south perimeter was contained. Progress was made on the Frey Fire and clearing brush was done on access roads into the South Fire. The Hartman and 4 Mile fires were contained. Mop-up continues on the Fox and Rock 2 fires.

Management of the Frey fire has been transferred from CalFire to the Canyon Complex. The Quarry/Island and Pit fires have been transferred to CalFire. The Rim Fire remains under the command of CalFire. This has resulted in a change of total acres.

Yesterday, a fire fighter was injured in a fall. The fire fighter was air lifted to Reno and has been treated and released. Additionally, the dozer operator involved in an accident was taken to Enloe Hospital in Chico and is in stable condition.

Summary: Progress continues on other fires in the Complex including the South, Scotch, and Little Fires. Suppression priorities are the Cold Fire, South Fire (1,251 acres), Frey (1,250 acres), Little Fire (736 acres), and the Scotch Fire (260 acres). At this time, 20 fires are contained and 9 fires are uncontained. As fires continue to be contained, resources become available to work in other areas of the complex.

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. Trails, including the Pacific Crest Trail, are closed in these areas. Please refer to maps and descriptions posted on the Forest website <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas/>. Temporary flight restrictions are in place over the fire complex.

Currently, no evacuations are in effect due to fires in the Canyon Complex and there has been no damage to structures. The Sierra Music Festival and the Graeagle fire works display will take place as scheduled. Campgrounds currently closed due to wildfires include Milsap Bar, Little North Fork, Rogers Cow Camp, Feather Falls, and Hartman Bar.

Smoke should clear creating mostly sunny skies today. Similar to yesterday, temperatures are expected to reach 83 degrees in the highest elevations and 92 degrees in the canyon bottoms. Humidity will decrease during the day and increase through the evening hours. Winds should be light with some gusts in the afternoon. As the weather becomes warmer and drier, increased fire activity is expected, with increased chances of spotting.

Private businesses and resorts in forest communities, including facilities around Bucks Lake, remain open. Highway 70 is under traffic control with multiple pilot cars. The control is in place near Belden in Plumas County and Big Bend Road in Butte County. Changing conditions may cause delays or require further road closures. Drivers should check road conditions prior to travel. Caltrans information: 1-800-427-7623

For an update of local air quality conditions, visit www.countyofplumas.com , for Butte County: www.bcaqmd.org.

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