

# NEWS



**Forest Service**

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Department of  
Agriculture*

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**Inyo  
National Forest**

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## **Forks Fire....Were You Prepared?**

The Inyo National Forest will be hosting a public meeting to discuss how residents can prepare for wildland fires and evacuations on Wednesday July 29 at 7:00 p.m. at Starlite Park in the community of Starlite. The park is located at the intersection of Starlite Drive and Arcturis.

Information will be available on how to create and maintain 100 feet of defensible space, how to reduce the risk of losing your home, and how to be prepared in case you have to evacuate. Take responsibility and educate yourself and your family before the next wildland fire.

The Forks Fire started on July 18 around 2:30 in the afternoon. The fire quickly grew in size and forced the mandatory evacuation of all campgrounds, marinas, and pack stations in the Bishop Creek drainage, as well as the communities of Aspendell and South Fork. The community of Starlite was placed on voluntary evacuation. Fire managers will be on hand at the meeting to discuss the Forks Fire and to answer questions about fire behavior in general. The Inyo County Sheriff's Department will be there to talk about planning for an evacuation, and what to do in case you are evacuated.

The fire season in the Eastern Sierra is just beginning. Do you feel prepared? Fire Managers will continue to fight unwanted wildfires aggressively after having provided for firefighter safety. While successful initial attack is important, preparedness and prevention on the part of homeowners and communities is critical.

Bring a lawn chair and join the discussion and get your questions and concerns answered. For further information please contact Debra Hein, Interagency Fire Mitigation Officer, at (760) 872-5057.

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