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News Release

July 1, 2016

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Pony Fire Update: July 1, 2016

Happy Camp, CA -- The Pony Fire is burning on the Klamath National Forest, about fifteen miles southwest of Happy Camp and west of Highway 96. The fire remains at 2,858 acres and 63 percent contained. No significant growth has occurred in the last week.

Crews continue to work on mop-up operations along the fire perimeter and continue to patrol containment lines. Aerial reconnaissance located a small area of roll-out on the southernmost "finger" on the fire. The roll-out showed no real potential to threaten containment efforts. This area of concern will be monitored by aircraft due to steepness of the terrain and firefighter safety concerns. Burning debris and logs rolling downhill continue to be the biggest challenge for firefighters. Firefighters will continue to cut snags along the fire perimeter and fire access points to provide for firefighter safety. With the help of aerial resources crews also continued to mop-up the recent area of concern near Swillup Creek.

The fire area continues to see warm temperatures and little day-to-day change is expected through Monday. The fire area has seen an increase in wind speed which is allowing areas of unburned fuels well within the interior to become more active. The fire is expected to continue to creep and smolder, with the possibility of single tree torching throughout the weekend.

For public and firefighter safety, a temporary closure order has been issued for lands within and adjacent to the Pony fire. The closed area includes National Forest land west of Highway 96, north of the Ukonom Ranger District boundary, east of Siskiyou Wilderness, and south of a line defined along Crawford Creek, Forest Road 15N19, and Bear Creek/Kelsey Trail. Dillon Creek Campground remains open.

More information and maps of the closure area are available on the Klamath National Forest website (www.fs.usda.gov/klamath).

Information, maps, and closures are also posted on Inciweb at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4769/>.



Caption: Area burned by the Pony Fire in Upper Elliot Creek.

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