

NorCal2
Type II
Interagency Incident Management Team
Mill Fire
Stonyford, California

Fire Info Line: 530-963-3128
Staffed 8:00 am to 8:00 pm
Fire Information Office: 530-963-3951,
559-280-5418,
www.inciweb.org/incident/2998/



July 12, 2012, 8:00 pm

Mill Fire Update

Summary: Smoke increased today as a result of burnout operations that began this afternoon. Good progress was made securing fire lines along the east and west flanks of the fire, and the north flank continued to hold well. Burnout operations will continue into the night, as conditions permit.

Fire managers are concerned about smoke impacts to surrounding communities. Local Forest Service officials and the Incident Team are in close communication with local Air Quality Management Districts, and are also working with agricultural business operations in nearby areas. The Forest Service and the California Air Resources Board have set up smoke monitors. Air Quality Alerts have been issued by Mendocino & Lake County Air Quality Management Districts for the region.

The Grindstone Ranger District provides unique recreation opportunities including a popular off-highway vehicle trail system. The fire has impacted ninety miles or two-thirds of this system.

Today the Incident Team managing the Mill Fire began Unified Command with CAL FIRE, due to the fire crossing into land under CAL FIRE protection (Direct Protection Area).

Time/Date Started: July 7, 2012

Location: Mendocino National Forest, north and east of Letts Lake

Cause: Under investigation

Fuels: Timber, brush

Size: 18,985 acres

Injuries: 3

Containment: 40%

Structures Destroyed: 5 outbuildings

Cost: \$5,000,000

Estimated Containment Date: 07/20/2012

Resources Committed: 29 Type 1 crews, 13 Type 2 crews, 8 helicopters, 100 engines, 19 dozers, 12 water tenders. Total personnel = 1,582

Predicted Weather: Minor cooling and increased humidity is expected for the area over night, and into the next few days. Although temperatures will decrease slightly, conditions will remain hot and dry.

Closures:

- A closure order remains in effect for the Mendocino National Forest for all roads and trails in the recreation area outside Stonyford on the south central portion of the Grindstone Ranger District. The closure order can be found on the internet at: www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/mendocino/alerts-notices.
- The Bureau of Reclamation announced today that East Park Reservoir in Colusa County, about 100 miles northwest of Sacramento, Calif., has been closed to recreational activities due to safety concerns including air quality and emergency vehicles operating in the area.
- Fire restrictions will go into effect within the Mendocino National Forest starting tomorrow, Friday, July 13. More information about the restrictions is available at Forest Service offices and on the internet at: www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/mendocino/alerts-notices.

Evacuations:

- Evacuations are in effect for the areas of Fouts Springs, Bonnie View, and Board Camp Springs and campgrounds within the Upper Letts Lake area.
- Portions of the community of Stonyford are under voluntary evacuation.
- The Fouts Spring Road (The M10 Road) is closed at Stonyford.
- The Goat Mountain Road is closed at the Stonyford Lodoga Road.
- The Lake View Loop Road to the Goat Mountain Road is under voluntary evacuation.
- An Advisory has been issued to residents west of the Stonyford Lodoga Road between Stonyford and Goat Mountain Road to be prepared for a possible evacuation.

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