



Tahoe National Forest American Fire Update

Friday, August 16, 2013 – 10 a.m.

For further information visit:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/tahoe/> or <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3624/>

Info Center: 530-367-6223

Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Fire Name: American

Location: Approximately 8 air miles northeast of Foresthill, CA in the Tahoe National Forest in a remote area with steep, rugged terrain.

Current Size: 7,367 acres **Containment:** 31 percent **Structures Destroyed:** 1 outbuilding

Resources: Approximately 1,225 personnel including 41 hand crews, 35 engines, 21 water tenders, 15 dozers, 8 helicopters, and air tankers as available.

Start/Reported Date: 8/10/2013 in the afternoon and reported via the Duncan Peak Lookout Tower.

Cause: Under Investigation

Current Information:

- Last night the fire made a significant three-mile run up Secret Canyon to Ford Point.
- Full suppression efforts are in progress, but the containment percentage decreased because of the increased acreage.
- Firefighters completed defensive firing operations up to the Deadwood Ridge and Foresthill Road junction and continued west for another quarter mile on Foresthill Divide Road.
- Firefighters made good containment progress on the southern end of the fire using dozer lines.
- A mobile retardant batch plant is operational at the airport in Blue Canyon.
- The fire is burning in steep terrain in dense timber in an area that has not burned in several decades, which is contributing to the heavy smoke.
- The Forest, Tribes, industry, local agencies, and private landowners are collaborating to establish a strategy and tactics to minimize impacts on resources and local communities.
- Firefighter and public safety remain the first priorities.

Advisories:

- The Tahoe National Forest issued a closure order for the fire area that is posted on the Forest Web site at <http://tinyurl.com/mvx4w3c>.
- The Placer County Sheriff has closed the Foresthill Divide Road beginning at China Wall OHV Staging Area, which is northeast of Foresthill.
- The Foresthill community is not threatened.
- Air quality is affected in a wide area surrounding the fire area. During the day, areas north and northeast of the fire are likely to experience higher smoke concentration while evening smoke inversions are expected to push smoke into areas downslope of the fire. People should take appropriate precautions concerning smoke. Several counties have issued air quality advisories.