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News Release

June 24, 2016

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Pony Fire Update: June 24, 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 60 percent contained.

On Thursday, crews again patrolled containment lines on the northern, eastern and southern perimeters. Firefighters hiked to the southeast edge of the fire to confirm the Wednesday helicopter water drops used there had checked fire growth. Crews also continued using a chipper to create a fuel break to protect homes along Highway 96.

Temperatures are expected to rise slightly on Friday, marking the beginning of a warming and drying trend that will extend into next week. The fire is expected to continue to creep and smolder on Friday, with burning logs rolling downhill the biggest threat. Crews will continue to patrol all containment lines and use chippers to reduce brushy fuels. With engine support, crews are planning to check for hotspots just off a dozer line above the "fingers" of fire in the Dillon Creek drainage.

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/>.

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