

NorCal 2 Type II
Interagency Incident Management Team
Rush Fire
CA-BLM-NOD
Ravendale, California

Fire Information Office:
530-710-8568
Staffed 8:00 am to 6:00 pm



For Immediate Release: August 16, 2012 @ 8:00 pm

RUSH FIRE UPDATE

Started: August 12, 2012 at 6:42 pm

Cause: Lightning

Fuels: Fire is burning in sagebrush, juniper, and grass

Estimated Size: 160,000 acres

Containment: 25%

Expected Containment: 8/22/2012

Committed Resources: Approximately 468 people

Structures Threatened: 36 (30 residences; 1 commercial; 5 outbuildings)

Structures Damaged or Destroyed: 1 (barn)

Injuries: 2 (both in fire camp)

Location: The fire is located on Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Northern California District (BLM-CA-NOD,) Eagle Lake Field Office, approximately 15 miles southeast of Ravendale, California. The fire is burning near a major natural gas line and transfer station, and power transmission lines that supply the Reno area.

Summary: The fire remained active on the northwest, west, and southern edges. Fire growth is primarily expected to spread to the north towards Shin Mountain, Observation Peak, and Thunder Mountain Resort. The fire pushed south over the top of Skedaddle Mountain and is now burning on the south side of the mountain spreading towards Skedaddle Ranch. Firefighters worked with dozers and air retardant drops this afternoon to contain spot fires along the west perimeter of the fire near Highway 395. Due to this increased fire activity, Highway 395 was closed for about an hour this afternoon. Fire crews will continue to focus on securing the northwestern edge of the fire by utilizing burnouts operations, as conditions permit, in an effort to secure the line.

Voluntary evacuations of structures along eastern side of Highway 395 continue. Structure protection is being implemented by fire crews. Residents along Mail Route/County Road 502 and Garate Road were notified that voluntary evacuations for that area are in effect. The fire is currently within ½ mile of US Route (Highway) 395.

Area and Road Closures in Effect: Effective today, Rye Patch Road is closed to the public due to active fire activity. On August 14, the BLM issued a closure order for public lands in the fire area to protect public health and safety. The closed area is bounded by Highway 395 on the west, the Sand Pass Road on the east, and the Wendel Road on the south. The new northern boundary for the public land closure is the Juniper Ridge, Tuledad, Stage Road, Marr Road, and Buckhorn Road extending to Nevada Highway 447 in Washoe County. Routes closed within this closure area include the Ramhorn Springs, Shinn Ranch, Stoney, Deep Cut, Smoke Creek, Skedaddle Ranch, Dry Valley, and Brubeck roads. The Ramhorn Springs Campground also is closed.

Travelers along the Highway 395 corridor, please use caution near the fire crews and equipment working in the fire area. Highway 395 may be closed due to fire activity. Please check for current road conditions with CalTrans at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi> or 800-427-7623.

Remarks: Fire officials remind residents and visitors that fire restrictions are in effect for public lands and national forests in northeast California. Campfires are permitted only in posted recreation sites. Chainsaws may not be used after 1:00pm daily.



For additional fire information, go to InciWeb @ <http://inciweb.org/incident/3151/> or follow us on Twitter @ <https://twitter.com/NorCalTeam2>.

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